FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 048 *12 March 1985*

ARGENTINA

Alfonsin Extends Sympathies on Chernenko's Death B 1
Funeral Delegation Named B 1
Memorandum of Understanding Signed With Italy B 1
Italy's Pertini Cuts Short Visit, Returns Home B 1
Airliner Delayed, Allegedly Sabotaged B 2
Caputo Rules Out Sabotage B 2
Alfonsin Confirms Grinspun as Planning Secretary B 2
[LA NACION 10 Mar]
Briefs: New Domestic Trade Secretary B 2

BOLIVIA

Siles, Camacho Send Condolences Over Chernenko C 1
Siles Cancels Trip to Brazilian Inauguration C 1
Defense Minister Issues Warning on Roadblocks C 1
Union Official on Roadblocks C 2
Conflicting Reports Circulated C 2
COB, Miners Demonstrate Near Government Palace C 3
Three La Paz Marches C 3
Congressmen Cannot Reach La Paz C 3
Government, Mineworkers Union Hold Talks C 4
Mineworkers Reject Wage Increase C 4
Talks To Continue C 4
Information Minister Denounces Labor Head C 5
Private Radio, TV Stations Continue Operations C 5

BRAZIL

Neves' Cabinet List Reveals Structural Changes D 1
Condolence Message Sent on Chernenko's Death D 2
Italian President Pertini Makes Stopover D 2
Figueiredo Attends Launching of Artillery Rocket D 2
[O GLOBO 8 Mar]

PERU

Belaunde Expresses Condolences Over Chenenko J 1
APRA Presidential Candidate Supports Stoppages J 1
Economy Minister Views State Employees Wages J 1

URUGUAY

FRG Foreign Minister Begins Official Visit K 1
Meets With Sanguinetti K 1
Talks With Iglesias, Zerbino [DPA] K 1
Report on Dinner Speech [DPA] K 1
Congress Approves Amnesty for Political Prisoners K 2
192 Prisoners Released K 2
EL DIA Criticizes Motley's Praise for Chilean Coup [1 Mar] K 2

MEXICO

Bartlett Leads Delegation To Chernenko Funeral M 1
Silva Herzog Comments on Effects of Devaluation M 1
Cuban Vice Transportation Minister Arrives M 1
Briefs: New Urban Development Secretary M 1

CENTRAL AMERICA

EL SALVADOR

FPL Statement on Coprefa Chief's Assassination P 1

HONDURAS

Editorial Says Allies Abuse Nation's Good Faith P 1
[LA TRIBUNA 8 Mar]
Group Claims Responsibility for Disco Bombing P 2

NICARAGUA

3-Day Mourning Decreed for Death of Chernenko P 3
Ortega Heads Delegation to Moscow P 3
Ortega Comments Before Leaving P 3
Condolence Message to Gorbachev P 4
Ramirez, Others Sign Condolence Book P 5
More on Ortega's Speech on U.S.-Contra Ties P 5
Spanish Territorial Minister Ends 2-Day Visit [ACAN] P 7
Yugoslavs Arrive for Mixed Commission Meeting P 8
Episcopal Conference Takes No Stand on Mediation P 8
CDN Communique States Stand on National Dialogue P 8
[LA PRENSA 6 Mar]
Court Denies Conservative Party Legal Status P 9
Quorum of 60 Percent May Approve Constitution P 9

CUBA

Castro Addresses Closing Session of FMC Congress Q 1
Castro Sends Condolences on Chernenko's Death Q 18
Official Mourning Decreed Q 19
Officials Meet With Soviet Minister, Angolans [Hilversum] Q 19
Ambassador Condemns Human Rights Violations Q 19
Spanish Labor Leader Tours Havana, Ends Visit Q 20
Tours Havana With Veiga Q 20
Meets With Castro [EFE] Q 20
Delegation Ends Visit Q 20

CARIBBEAN

BARBADOS

Prime Minister Adams Dies of Heart Attack S 1
Deputy Named Successor S 1
Ramphal Sends Condolences S 1
Cabinet To Be Retained S 1

JAMAICA

Officials Accuse Soviet Media of Propaganda War S 2

ALFONSIN EXTENDS SYMPATHIES ON CHERNENKO'S DEATH

PY111740 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1609 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 11 Mar (TELAM) -- Argentine President Raul Alfonsin today sent a telegram to the deputy chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet in which he expressed his sympathies over the death of Konstantin Chernenko. The text of the telegram follows:

"Representing the Argentine Government and people, I extend to Your Excellency my deepest sympathies over the death of the chairman of the Presidium of the USSR, for whom the entire Soviet people mourn."

Funeral Delegation Named

PY111737 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1538 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 11 Mar (TELAM) -- Presidential spokesman Jose Ignacio Lopez has reported that Juan Carlos Pugliese, president of the Argentine Chamber of Deputies, and Carlos Alconada Aramburu, education and justice minister, will head the Argentine delegation to the funeral of Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko.

In response to an invitation extended by Italian President Sandro Pertini, they will board the same plane that tonight will take Pertini to Rome.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING SIGNED WITH ITALY

PY112217 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1636 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 11 Mar (TELAM) -- Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo and his Italian counterpart, Giulio Andreotti, this morning in the Golden Room of San Martin Palace signed a memorandum of understanding that establishes mechanisms of consultation between the two countries. These consultations will be held annually through meetings to be held alternately in Rome and Buenos Aires and will be designed to solve all those problems stemming from Argentine-Italian cooperation in the socioeconomic, cultural, and scientific fields.

Later, Andreotti decorated Caputo with the Great Order of Merit of the Italian Republic and Caputo decorated his Italian counterpart with the order of General Jose de San Martin in the grade of Great Cross. At the end of the ceremony, the two ministers and their closest aides attended a luncheon that was given by the Argentine Foreign Ministry for the Italian minister at the dining hall of the National Protocol Directorate.

ITALY'S PERTINI CUTS SHORT VISIT, RETURNS HOME

PA111430 Paris AFP in Spanish 1347 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 11 Mar (AFP) -- Italian President Sandro Pertini, currently on an official visit to Argentina, will return to his country tonight in the wake of the death of Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko, it was learned from government sources in Buenos Aires today.

Pertini had arrived in Argentina on Saturday on an official 5-day visit which would have ended Wednesday, on which date he had planned to visit Brazil to attend the presidential inauguration of Tancredo Neves.

Airliner Delayed, Allegedly Sabotaged

PY120012 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2347 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 11 Mar (NA) -- The Alitalia jumbo airliner that was supposed to take Italian President Sandro Pertini on board is delayed at Ezeiza International Airport, apparently because of turbine problems. There is a rumor that bolts were thrown inside one of the turbines. The Italian delegation will depart in a few hours on board a similar Argentina Airlines plane.

Foreign Minister Dante Caputo is in Ezeiza, from where he telephoned President Alfonsin to tell him the news. The Italian delegation has made at least three phone calls to Rome.

Caputo Rules Out Sabotage

PY120207 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0130 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 11 Mar (TELAM) -- Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo today emphatically stated that the problem with the plane that was supposed to return President Sandro Pertini to Italy was purely technical. Shortly before dining with Pertini, Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti, and President of the Argentine Chamber of Deputies Juan Carlos Pugliese at the Ezeiza International Hotel, Foreign Minister Dante Caputo said categorically that the flight was delayed for technical reasons.

Pugliese will travel with Pertini to attend in Moscow the funeral ceremonies of the deceased Chairman of the Supreme Soviet Konstantin Chernenko.

Furthermore, a highly reliable source at the ariport denied that the objects found in the turbine of the Alitalia plane were placed there by alien hands because only Alitalia technicians and high-ranking ariline officials had access to the plane.

ALFONSIN CONFIRMS GRINSPUN AS PLANNING SECRETARY

PY111310 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 10 Mar 85 p 1

[Excerpt] President Alfonsin yesterday confirmed to LA NACION that former Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun will be the planning secretary. Alfonsin added that he himself will install Grinspun in his post on Wednesday, 13 March. Asked about the possibility that a hot-tempered man such as Grinspun would excessively interfere in the specific area of Economy Minister Sourrouille, Alfonsin emphatically banged on his desk and stated: "Absolutely not; there is no risk at all. It should be clearly understood that Grinspun will engage strictly in long-term planning. Moreoever, Grinspun will not make a single public statement on subjects that fall within the jurisdiction of the Economy Ministry."

BRIEFS

NEW DOMESTIC TRADE SECRETARY -- (NA) -- Newly-appointed Domestic Trade Secretary Julio Mendez was formally put into office yesterday by Economy Minister Juan Sourrouille in a brief ceremony originally scheduled for Friday, but which had to be postponed owing to lack of time. Mendez, who previously had been an adviser to President Raul Alfonsin, said his appointment was made at the suggestion of Sourrouille and did not stem from Alfonsin himself. [Text] [Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 26 Feb 85 p 7 PY]

SILES, CAMACHO SEND CONDOLENCES OVER CHERNENKO

PA120444 Paris AFP in Spanish 0347 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] La Paz, 11 Mar (APF) -- Bolivian President Hernan Siles Zuazo and Foreign Minister Edgar Camacho Omiste, expressed their condolences over the death of Konstantin Chernenko, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

"I share the sorrow of the noble people of the USSR," President Siles Zuazo says in a message to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

Foreign Minister Camacho Omiste's message to Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko says: "I offer my condolences over the passing away of the chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR."

SILES CANCELS TRIP TO BRAZILIAN INAUGURATION

PY112032 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1900 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Only a few minutes ago the cabinet concluded a meeting at Government Palace under the chairmanship of President Hernan Siles Zuazo. Foreign Minister Edgar Camacho Omiste has just confirmed that President Siles Zuazo will not travel to Brazil to attend the inauguration of Brazilian President-elect Tancredo Neves on 15 March. Minister Camacho said that the situation prevailing in the country due to the acute social problems do not make it advisable for President Siles Zuazo to leave to attend the presidential inauguration in Brazil.

[Begin recording] With the death of the chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Soviet Union, Konstantin Chernenko, the Bolivian constitutional government and the nation's president have sent a message expressing condolences to the Soviet people.

An official delegation will attend the inauguration of the Brazilian president-elect on 15 March. It will be headed by the foreign minister, and he will be accompanied by the Bolivian ambassador to Brasilia. The nation's president, considering the problems the country is experiencing, will not attend. [end recording]

That was a statement by Foreign Minister Camacho Omiste confirming the decision by President Siles Zuazo not to attend the inauguration of the Brazilian president-elect on 15 March.

DEFENSE MINISTER ISSUES WARNING ON ROADBLOCKS

PY111827 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Defense Minister Manuel Cardenas Mallo has warned that those groups of peasants that blockade roads must face the consequences. He reported that for the time being all highways and roads throughout the country are open to traffic. He admitted, however, that in some regions where the roads were blocked by the peasants, the Armed Forces immediately took action and cleared the roads. The defense minister made these remarks on arriving at Government Palace to participate in the meeting of the cabinet called by President Hernan Siles Zuazo. Cardenas Mallo has warned that if the peasants decide to block the roads, they will have to face the consequences because the Armed Forces will immediately intervene.

Union Official on Roadblocks

PY111921 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] The Single Union Confederation of Peasant Workers of Bolivia [Csutcb] has stated categorically that there are roadblocks in the country. Victor Morales, leader of this union organization, has stated that the blockades began this morning in four districts in the interior of the country: Cochabamba, Santa Cruz, Chuquisaca, and Oruro. Victor Morales, secretary general of the Csutcb will give us further details:

[Begin recording] First of all, I want to tell the people throughout the country, and especially my fellow workers in the interior, that the roadblocks have already begun in the Departments of Oruro, Santa Cruz, Cochabamba, and Sucre. In addition, we are ready to go ahead with this measure in accordance with the resolutions of the Bolivian Labor Federation [COB] and of the communique our Federation issued on 8 March.

Regarding the remarks made by the defense minister, we must state categorically that we are ready to defend the interests of the country and of the exploited workers of the mines, the fields, and the cities. If, as he did in 1957, President Siles really wants to massacre the exploited peasant workers, let him do it. We, the people, will witness it.

[Reporter] Does this mean that despite the intervention by the Armed Forces, the peasant workers will continue to put up roadblocks throughout the country?

[Morales] That is true. We want to tell the government of President Siles that if it has to shoot someone, it should not shoot our rank and file fellow workers but the leaders, who will stay in their positions of struggle. It will be easy for the government to find us: We will be walking the streets, so let it shoot or arrest us. We declare the government to be an enemy of the Bolivian workers and the exploited sectors. [end recording]

Conflicting Reports Circulated

PY112041 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1900 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] This morning Peasant and Agricultural Affairs Minister Guillermo Moscoso affirmed that the government and the Csutcb have agreed that there will ba a 48-hour truce to allow time for negotiations. At the government level it is being asserted that roadblocks have not been erected. Defense Minister Colonel Manuel Cardenas, however, has acknowledged that roads have been blockaded in the region of Patagamaya. He said that they were immediately cleared peacefully by the Armed Forces.

Thus, there are some contradictions between the reports from each side. The Csutcb is asserting that roads are being blockaded in various regions of the country, while official government reports state that all minor incidents have been overcome and that the country's roads are clear for traveling throughout the country.

COB, MINERS DEMONSTRATE NEAR GOVERNMENT PALACE

PY112047 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 2020 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Report from Government Palace by Jaime Siles]

[Text] There is an atmosphere of tension here at Government Palace, where the Bolivian Police have intensified the security ring around the palace in the face of a demonstration being staged by mineworkers and other labor sectors in this area.

At one point the police attempted to make the demonstrators retreat, but the mineworkers, who are leading the demonstration, have virtually surrounded Government Palace; that is, they are two blocks away. The police have been taking the appropriate measures.

It has been reported by police sources that the demonstration is peaceful, but it has been made clear that the Bolivian police at no time will let the demonstrators reach Government Palace in order to prevent disorder and unrest in this area.

We repeat that at one point there was an atmosphere of tension in this area when a clash between the demonstrators and the police seemed imminent. Fortunately, nothing happened and the mineworkers are now marching two blocks away from Plaza Murillo. The number of police in this area has increased, and we must note that thus far nothing has happened.

President Siles has not yet arrived at Government Palace. It has been reported that as soon as a meeting being held between a government delegation and the Trade Union Federation of Bolivian Mineworkers is over, the president will be briefed in detail on the meeting. Thus, President Siles Zuazo is expected to arrive at Government Palace at approximately 1800 for this briefing.

Three La Paz Marches

PY112020 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1900 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Some of the demonstrations sponsored by the COB are beginning at various sites in the city. One march includes mineworkers from various districts who have just arrived in La Paz. Another includes housewives from the mining centers and La Paz. And still another march is to be staged by the neighborhood committees.

Thus, three COB-sponsored marches are being staged this afternoon, as another form of pressure among those ordered by the COB in past days. The prospects at this time are encouraging, in view of talks that have begun to be held between government officials and COB and mineworkers leaders, talks which may culminate in an agreement in the coming hours.

Congressmen Cannot Reach La Paz

PY112006 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Senators and deputies will not be able to convene today, 11 March, in view of the fact that both air and inland transportation services have been suspended as a result of the indefinite strike called by the COB. The lawmakers cannot come to La Paz because of the strike.

GOVERNMENT, MINEWORKERS UNION HOLD TALKS

Mineworkers Reject Wage Increase

PY111647 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] The miners have labeled the government's 30-percent wage increase as insufficient. This answer was given by the Trade Union Federation of Bolivian Mineworkers [FSTMB], to the members of the government's economic team this weekend.

Mining leaders and representatives of the government's economic team met recently without reaching any basic agreements on the general strike. However, the union leaders recognized that there is a slight improvement in shipment of food supplies to mining centers but they questioned how much longer these shipments can be maintained.

Members of the COB have indicated that the marches from various sectors and popular mobilizations will be intensified as of today. Marches by teachers, municipal employees, and public employees have been announced for today. The COB also announced that a decision has been made to reopen the Bolivian Central Bank on 12 March so workers can get paid.

Last night the FSTMB released a communique explaining the mobilization of miners around La Paz. They explained that the mobilization was approved after the latest measures approved by the government because those measures worsened the mineworkers' poor conditions and made the lack of supplies in the mining centers intolerable. This organization said: We emphatically reject press reports that the mineworkers were brought to La Paz by any means. The federation said that the food supply for miners, who came with only some rations, is now being taken care of thanks to the mobilization of the La Paz Housewives Department Federation, women from the markets, the Center of Mining Students of the San Andres University, other institutions, and people of goodwill.

The federation also added that the miners are getting contributions in money and goods from union and popular organizations. The FSTMB also announced that measures have been taken to take care of the miners' medical needs through Mining Corporation of Bolivia [Comibol] human rights organizations, the Red Cross, and mining doctors who were on vacation but have decided to help.

Talks To Continue

PY112131 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1900 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] According to a statement by Planning and Coordination Minister Freddy Justiniano, negotiations between the government and the miners will continue in order to find an agreement to end the indefinite general strike, which is part of the Bolivian Labor Federation strike.

The minister said that this afternoon a government commission will meet with FSTMB commission to discuss the 14 points, which have been increased to 17 points.

[Begin recording] A commission headed by Minister [name indistinct] is conducting negotiations with the Bolivian mineworkers federation. The discussions revolve around the 17 points the miners want discussed, mainly the questions of the supply of essential products, salaries, prices, and special financing for the Comibol.

There are also other points, such as [word indistinct] Comibol integration, the gold mining monopoly by Comibol, the ban on mineral exports by the private mining sector, the takeover of heavy transport by the state, nationalization of urban transport, nonpayment of the foreign debt to international private banks unless they recognize it was contracted by the military regimes, placement of foreign trade in the hands of the state, nationalization of private banks, banning imports of nonessential goods, eliminating the U.S. dollar parallel market, giving the state the monopoly over food and imports, and the reinstatement of some clauses in the Rural Reform Law in accordance with the statute of the Comibol.

The talks have started, and this afternoon they will continue to deal with the three of four main points that merit prompt consideration and an immediate answer from the government. Answers to the other points will come next. [end recording]

That was a statement by the planning and coordination minister at the end of the cabinet meeting that began at noon today and just ended.

INFORMATION MINISTER DENOUNCES LABOR HEAD

PY111459 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] The attempts made by Juan Lechin Oquendo, the head of the Revolutionary Party of the Nationalist Left [PRIN], to make the labor movement into an outlet of subversion of the proletariat against the government has failed. This statement was made by Information Minister Mario Rueda Pena after evaluating the general indefinite strike ordered by the COB.

The official government spokesman said a confrontation with the mineworkers will never take place. Rueda added: Our confrontation is against politician Lechin because of his suicidal attitude toward the workers and democracy.

[Begin recording] What I mean to say is that after an absolutely objective evaluation the attempts made by the PRIN head to make the social and economic crisis into some kind of outlet of subversion of the proletariat against the government has failed. The miners do not want to break their backs [words indistinct]. They know that we are not confronting the working class, that our confrontation is with politician Lechin because of his murderous attitude toward the workers and democracy. He has already lost all his persuasive effectiveness [words indistinct] of accusing as antiworkers anyone questioning Lechin's political views or confronting him. I believe that [words indistinct] within the labor movement is a position that goes along with the democratic tradition of the labor movement and its proven stand to defend the continuity of the democratic process. [end recording]

PRIVATE RADIO, TV STATIONS CONTINUE OPERATIONS

PY111957 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] This is a late report: All private radio stations will not stop their transmissions. Leaders of the Confederation of Radio and Television Workers [Costratel] and Festratel [not further identified] have just visited the studios of Radio Panamericana to announce that the COB has decided to have private radio stations observe their normal transmission hours.

It has been reported that the COB made this decision in view of the fact that the people must be kept informed about the present situation. We repeat: All private radio stations will maintain their normal transmission schedules. Costratel and Festratel leaders have confirmed that activities of all private radio and television stations will be normal.

NEVES' CABINET LIST REVEALS STRUCTURAL CHANGES

PY120159 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0122 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Brasilia, 11 Mar (EFE) -- The first cabinet of the new democratic government was released tonight in Brasilia and its composition reveals that a balance of political forces has been skillfully achieved within the government of Tancredo Neves. The new Brazilian Government, which will be inaugurated on 15 March, introduced major changes in the ministerial structure and increased the number of ministerial posts from 20 to 25.

Neves himself will tomorrow officially announce the composition of his cabinet, and will thus put an end to nearly 2 months of rumors about his ministerial candidates.

The government that will be inaugurated on 15 March will put an end to 21 years of military rule.

The list released tonight shows that Neves has chosen experienced politicians and professionals, many of whom are known for their loyalty to the 75-year-old politician.

The new cabinet is made up of:

Minister Chief of the Civilian Household: Hugo Castelo Branco, 62, current president of the Minas Gerais State Bank.
Finance Minister, Francisco Dornelles, 50, current secretary of the federal budget, a nephew of Neves.
Mines and Energy Minister: Aureliano Chaves, 55, current vice president of Brazil and leader of the Liberal Front.
Planning Minister: Joao Sayad, 39, current planning secretary of the Sao Paulo State Government.
Industry and Commerce Minister: Roberto Gusmao, 61, government secretary of the Sao Paulo State Government.
Foreign Relations Minister: Olavo Setuval, 56, a banker and former mayor of Sao Paulo.
Labor Minister: Almir Pazzianotto, 48, current labor secretary of Sao Paulo State.
Health Minister: Carlos Santanna, 53, deputy of the Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party (PMDB) from Bahia State.
Communications Minister: Antonio Carlos Magalhaes, 57, former governor of Bahia State.
Social Security Minister: Waldir Pires, 58, former attorney general.
Agriculture Minister: Pedro Simon, 55, a senator from Rio Grande do Sul State.
Justice Minister: Fernando Lyra, 47, a PMDB deputy from Pernambuco State.
Transport Minister: Afonso Camargo, 47, a PMDB senator from Pernambuco State.
Army Minister: General Leonidas Pires, 64, former commander of the III Corps.
Navy Minister: Admiral Enrique Saboya, 60, former chief of the Navy Personnel Department.
Aeronautics Minister: General Octavio Moreira Lima, 62, who has held on previous administrative posts.
Minister Chief of the National Intelligence Service: General Ivan de Souza Mendes, 62, former commander of the 7th Military Region.
Minister Chief of the Military Household: General Rubens Bayma, former commander of the 4th Infantry Brigade.
Regional Development Minister: Ronald da Costa Couto, 42, planning secretary of the Minas Gerais State Government.

Housing and Urban Affairs Minister: Flavio Peixoto, 39, planning secretary of the Goias State Government.
Education Minister: Marco Maciel, 44, a senator and president of the Liberal Front.
Cultural Minister: Jose Aparecido de Olivetra, 55, culture secretary of the Minas Gerais State Government.
Administration Minister: Aluizio Alves, 64, former governor of Rio Grande do Norte State.
Science and Technology Minister: Renato Acher, 62, former deputy of the now defunct Social Democratic Party.
Minister for Special Affairs: Mauro Salles, 55, an expert in advertisement and former secretary of the government council.

CONDOLENCE MESSAGE SENT ON CHERNENKO'S DEATH

PY120052 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] President Joao Figueiredo has decreed a 3-day period of official mourning on the death of Supreme Soviet Presidium Chairman Konstantin Chernenko. Itamaraty today released a note informing the public that the Brazilian Government has sent a condolence message to the Soviet Government on the death of Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko. To represent Brazil at his funeral on Wednesday, 13 March, the Brazilian Government will appoint its ambassador in Moscow, Ronaldo Sardenberg.

ITALIAN PRESIDENT PERTINI MAKES STOPOVER

PY082341 Paris AFP in Spanish 2200 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 8 Mar (AFP) -- Italian President Sandro Pertini today arrived in Rio de Janeiro at 1745 local time and will spend the night in this city. At noon, the Italian president will depart for Buenos Aires, where he will spend 4 days on an official visit.

Pertini was preceded by Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti, who arrived at the Rio de Janeiro military air base at 1500.

The Italian president will return to Brazil for an official visit on 14 March to participate in the ceremonies marking the inauguration of President-elect Tancredo Neves scheduled to be held in Brasilia on 15 March.

FIGUEIREDO ATTENDS LAUNCHING OF ARTILLERY ROCKET

PY112310 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 8 Mar 85 p 3

[Excerpt] President Figueiredo yesterday paid a nearly 3-hour visit to the Army Technological Center (CTEX) in Guaratiba, where he had lunch and for the first time attended a launching of one of the most recent weapons designed by the Brazilian Airspace Industry [Avibras]: the SS30-mi Astros II surface-to-surface rocket system.

The first rocket, which was fired by a multiple launcher mounted on a heavy truck, traveled 30 km in only 65 seconds and immediately fell into the sea, where it exploded. Two more rockets were then fired in rapid succession. According to some senior officers who attend the launching, the president was impressed by the effectiveness of the weapon.

Avibras is a Brazilian company with 20 years experience in the aerospace field and has specialized in the manufacture of missiles and rockets. The Astros II, one of its newest weapons, is an artillery rocket system for saturation fire equipped with a computer-controlled firing unit.

BELAUNDE EXPRESSES CONDOLENCES OVER CHERNENKO

PY120106 Paris AFP in Spanish 2224 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Lima, 11 Mar (AFP) -- Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde Terry and his Prime and Foreign Minister Luis Percovich today praised deceased USSR head of state Konstantin Chernenko and indicated that he should be given credit for trying to preserve peace and the balance that the world needs to live in peace. President Balaunde this afternoon went to the Soviet Embassy in Lima to sign the condolence book and said that Chernenko's death is felt deeply because he was the head of state of a superpower. We hope that his successor will be able to make this great country contribute decisively to the strengthening of peace and social justice throughout the world, Belaunde added.

Percovich stated that President Belaunde and the Peruvian Foreign Ministry have sent condolences to Moscow expressing the sorrow of the Peruvian people and government over the loss.

Percovich also said that a delegation of Peruvian industrialists will soon travel to Moscow to implement agreements on exports of Peruvian processed and semiprocessed goods to the USSR. The delegation will be led by the industries minister. Last year the Soviet Union agreed to allow Peru to pay part of its debt to it in nontraditional goods.

However, Peruvian Government officials have lately been expressing some concern over the presence of a huge Soviet fishing fleet along the border of the 200-mile territorial sea that Peru claims. The officials said that the activities of this fleet affect the species that feed the Peruvian people.

President Belaunde also announced that the Peruvian ambassador in Moscow will represent Peru at the funeral ceremonies for Chernenko.

APRA PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE SUPPORTS STOPPAGES

PY081713 Lima Radio del Pacifico in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] American Popular Revolutionary Alliance presidential candidate Alan Garcia Perez yesterday voiced his support for the work stoppages that are taking place in our country stating, however, that such stoppages do not [word indistinct] the electoral process. Garcia stated that the strikes exemplify the just claim of the workers vis-a-vis the spiraling inflation and noted that not only affiliated but also unaffiliated workers are participating in the stoppages. Garcia made these statements at Jorge Chavez Airport upon returning from Cuzco following a tour of southern Peru, a tour that he begun last weekend.

ECONOMY MINISTER VIEWS STATE EMPLOYEES WAGES

PY111905 Lima Radio del Pacifico in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Economy Minister Guillermo Garrido-Lecca yesterday said that the government has programmed (?13) salary readjustments per year for public employees and warned that the timetable will be met despite the demands of the public employees, who have been on strike for 1 week. He added that efforts are being made to reduce the budget deficit by 7 percent, and that a salary increase would mean increasing the fiscal deficit, and therefore inflation. He made these remarks at the Jorge Chavez International Airport. Public employees began a national strike on 5 March demanding a 125-percent increase over an average salary of 600,000 soles.

FRG FOREIGN MINISTER BEGINS OFFICIAL VISIT

Meets With Sanguinetti

PY111805 Montevideo Radio Monte Carlos Network in Spanish 1530 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Report from Government House]

[Text] Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti and FRG Minister of Foreign Affairs Hans-Dietrich Genscher met for 20 minutes in the presidential office where they discussed international issues. Upon leaving Government House for the Victoria Plaza Hotel, the FRG minister did not make any statements to the press. He is going to attend a luncheon at Taranco Palace given in his honor by President Sanguinetti.

Talks With Iglesias, Zerbino

LD111712 Hamburg DPA in German 1335 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Montevideo, 11 Mar (DPA) -- On the first day of his official visit to Uruguay, Federal Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher on Monday started talks with the leadership of Uruguay, which is now under democratic rule again after having a military regime for 12 years. In Montevideo, Genscher first met Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias. After that, talks are planned with President Julio Maria Sanguinetti and Economy Minister Ricardo Zerbino.

Genscher is to fly on to Brazil on Wednesday where he will attend the inauguration of the Brazilian president, Tancredo Neves on Friday. Neves if Brazil's first civilian president after 21 years of military government. Genscher wants to demonstrate Bonn's support for the democratization process in Latin America through his visits to Uruguay and Brazil.

Report on Dinner Speech

LD120048 Hamburg DPA in German 2309 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Montevideo, 11 Mar (OPA) -- In Montevideo, Federal Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher has appealed to the creditors of the deeply indebted states of Latin America not to exceed "political, social, and humanitarian limits" in the burden placed upon the debtor countries. At a dinner given by Uruguayan Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias, Genscher said this evening in the Uruguayan capital that "the goal must be to harmonize Latin America's obligation to pay its debts and its ability to accomplish this." Where successful efforts are being made by debtor countries, longer rescheduling periods and extended repayment periods have been steps in the right direction.

Genscher summarized the principles of Germany's Latin America policy in five points: "We want to contribute to the political and economic stabilization of the continent. We regard the democratic states of Latin America as the guarantors of a happy future in social equality. We see in the independence of the Latin American states the guarantee of a peaceful future for the region. We oppose the transfer of the East-West conflict to Latin America. We are making our contribution to good European-Latin American relations."

Latin America is going through one of the most difficult periods of its history, Genscher stressed. "Following political independence, today economic progress and social justice must above all be created and safeguarded as necessary conditions for political stability." A free democracy requires a solid economic and social foundation. The Federal Republic is prepared to help to the best of its ability.

Earlier, Uruguay's new, democratic head of state, Julia Maria Sanguinetti, assured Genscher that his country will maintain a liberal economic stance with a free financial market and free exchange rates.

In a 2 and 1/2 hour talk, Sanguinetti today pressed mainly for a more open European Community market for Uruguayan meat and for a greater transfer of capital and technology to Uruguay. His country needs foreign assistance to build itself up into an international service industries center. It was also learned from conference sources that Sanguinetti also regretted the exports of subsidized EEC agricultural products to third markets. Genscher explained that the European Community is in the process of reducing surplus production, and thus, the problem could solve itself.

Genscher, who arrived during the night for a 2 and 1/2 day official visit to Uruguay, also met with Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias and Economy Minister Ricardo Zerbino today. Zerbino held out prospects of a considerable reduction in the high property tax as an inducement for more foreign investment in Uruguay.

CONGRESS APPROVES AMNESTY FOR POLITICAL PRISONERS

PY091225 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Excerpt] The legislative branch tonight approved the draft bill declaring an amnesty for all political prisoners, including those charged with murder. The voting tonight in the Chamber of Deputies was held with 86 out of 91 deputies present. The deputies who belong to the Colorado and Batllist Union headed by Jorge Pacheco Areco were the only ones who did not vote for this draft bill which the Senate approved yesterday. The draft bill will now have to be signed into law by the executive branch. According to announcements made in the Chamber of Deputies, the law will be promulgated in the next few hours. It is expected that the release of all the political prisoners including those who are charged with murder will take place next week.

192 Prisoners Released

PY102252 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2122 GMT 10 Mar 85

[Text] Montevideo, 10 Mar (EFE) -- National Defense Minister Juan Vicente Charino has confirmed that 192 Uruguayan male and female political prisoners were released today as ordered by the amnesty law approved by Congress. However, there are still about 60 political prisoners in jail charged for violent crimes. They will probably be released next week.

EL DIA CRITICIZES MOTLEY'S PRAISE FOR CHILEAN COUP

PY091725 Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 1 Mar 85 p 4

[Editorial: "Unbelievable"]

[Text] After his 3-day working visit to Chile, Under Secretary for Inter-America Affairs of the U.S. Department of State Langhorne Motley was, shall we say, not too discerning in his choice of words in his declarations. The statement that the Western world has a "debt of gratitude" to the people of Chile and the current Chilean Government for having overthrown Salvador Allende in 1973 implies a lack of respect for the democratic system and the tens of thousands of people who laid down their lives to uphold it. But Motley is an experienced diplomat who is not necessarily naive. We do not know if Motley emerged with something definite from his meetings with the "defender of the West," because nothing has been reported and the under secretary himself, when asked about it, said that a "transition is very difficult." As a tactic, Mr Motley may have wanted to please the Chilean dictator with an excessively mellifluous language but, in doing so, he offended democracy, the Chilean people, and the memory of thousands of people who have been killed, persecuted, jailed, and banished by the dictatorship.

BARTLETT LEADS DELEGATION TO CHERNENKO FUNERAL

PA120410 Paris AFP in Spanish 0338 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Mexico City, 11 Mar (AFP) -- Government Secretary Manuel Bartlett will represent Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid at the funeral for Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko, it was officially announced today. Bartlett, who left Monday afternoon for Moscow, was accompanied by Senator Hugo Margain, former ambassador to the United States, and Horacio Flores, the Mexican representative in the USSR who happened to be in Mexico City.

The Presidency also announced that De la Madrid had sent a message congratulating the new general secretary of the CPSU, Mikhail Gorbachev. "I am pleased to convey to you my cordial congratulations on your election to the highest post of the Communist Party and hope that your term in office will be successful," said the message. Gorbachev was designated today as the top leader of his country after the announcement of Konstantin Chernenko's death.

SILVA HERZOG COMMENTS ON EFFECTS OF DEVALUATION

FL111512 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1540 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Guanajuato, Mexico 9 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico's secretary of finance and public credit, Jesus Silva Herzog, has said the federal government has no intentions of overvaluating the Mexican currency because it is trying to be realistic.

He explained that the slide of the peso has positive and negative effects. On one hand, we become more competitive when exporting and, on the other, there is the inflation effect. This can be counteracted by rationalizing the production system to reduce the cost of the currency slide and by modifying foreign trade policies. He said that economic growth will be 30 percent in 1985 and that relations with the United States have been difficult, complex, and varied. However, he said, there are no fundamental problems, only circumstantial ones which the government intends to overcome.

CUBAN VICE TRANSPORTATION MINISTER ARRIVES

FL112254 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2050 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Mexico City, 8 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Cuba's vice minister of transportation, Raul Gonzalez Tapia, has said that only by signing bilateral agreements can the intregration of Latin America and the strengthening of trade exchanges among the nations of the area be achieved.

Interviewed at the international airport on arriving in Mexico to attend the Caribbean Multinational Shipping Line (Namucar) meeting, he said his country would soon be signing a bilateral maritime accord with Mexico. Gonzalez Tapia said Mexico and Cuba conduct 99.5 percent of their trade via sea transport. He emphasized the importance of arriving at an agreement on this matter because their commercial relations have increased over the last few years. He said large quantities of goods such as beans, rice, and sugar-cane, and chemical and petrochemical products are exchanged with Mexico.

BRIEFS

NEW URBAN DEVELOPMENT SECRETARY -- Mexico City, 11 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico's president, Miguel de la Madrid, today named Guillermo Carrillo Arena as the new secretary of urban development and ecology. He replaces Marcelo Javelly Giraro. [Excerpt] [Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2145 GMT 11 Mar 85 FL]

EL SALVADOR

FPL STATEMENT ON COPREFA CHIEF'S ASSASSINATION

PA110000 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1700 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Today, a person identifying himself as a member of the People's Liberation Forces [FPL] made the following statement in connection with the murder of Colonel Ricardo Aristides Cienfuegos:

[Begin recording] The FPL's Clara Elizabeth Ramirez Front unveils its operation named: Long Live the 15 Years of Prolonged People's Warfare. This operation entailed the execution of Col Ricardo Aristides Cienfuegos, director of the Armed Forces Press Committee [Coprefa], an office used by the Yankee imperialism's puppet, the bourgecis regime to implement a psychological warfare and misinformation campaign.

Our front's urban command conducted the operation at the tennis courts of the International Sports Club at 1255. With this operation we are commemorating the historic event in April 1970 when our companeros created the Farabundo Marti FPL. Among the companeros who founded this organization we can mention Companero Salvador Cayetano Carpio, Commander Marcial Dimas [name indistinct], Jose Roberto Sibrian, as well as Companero Ernesto Morales and others. I believe that our people are resuming the prolonged warfare strategy, in the wake of the [word indistinct] the Clara Elizabeth Ramirez Front. That is all. [end recording]

HONDURAS

EDITORIAL SAYS ALLIES ABUSE NATION'S GOOD FAITH

PA101731 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 8 Mar 85 p 5

[Editorial: "Our Good Faith"]

[Excerpts] We Hondurans are frequently caught by surprise because of our good faith. The time has come for us to stop being naive. All of our actions must be solely and exclusively in keeping with national interest.

First of all, afraid and powerless, El Salvador asked us for military cooperation in training its troops on Honduran soil because it cannot resist the onslaught of the leftist guerrillas.

Previously, a general peace treaty had been signed in Lima, Peru. In light of some attitudes, which the government of that country has been assuming, it would seem that the idea then was to achieve a sort of truce to devote all efforts and work to a single front: the guerrilla front. Five years should have been enough to settle the conflict through either of the two possible options: political or military.

However, far from having been solved, the internal conflict in El Salvador has stagnated. Neither the guerrillas nor the Army are advancing. There is no winner or loser.

We hope that this state of affairs will not lead the Salvadoran Government to think that the conflict's stabilization means the situation is good enough for it to turn attention to the Honduran front and retrace its previous steps of denouncing or denying the validity of enforceability of international treaties. This could prevent a peaceful settlement of the border conflict with Honduras and send the controversy back to its previous level. In other words, revert to a standstill, and leave things at that point so that in time, the theory that Honduras abandoned the claim for its territorial rights could be used to establish Salvadoran sovereignty over the dispute areas. We would like to think, we reiterate, that recent statements by Salvadoran Foreign Minister Jore Tenorio do not indicate this.

Second, our "great ally and friend, the United States of America," refused to sign a mutual aid treaty because it claims that there is no precedent for a treaty of that kind with any Latin American country. To top this off, General Paul Gorman urged us to change to the Soviet sphere of influence. [as published] (We are sure that if we abided by his recommendation, Gorman himself would come here to fight us until we surrendered or abjured the communist ideology.)

However, the United States is exploiting our belief in "friendship and the traditional alliance" to familiarize its armed contingents with the possibility of an East-West confrontation in Central America. If the U.S. military might were defeated in its own backyard, we would be witnessing the debacle of that great nation. This cannot happen, not even in dreams, and for this reason, the United States is training its troops on Central American soil. An unexpected military incident could be catastrophic. Then, why the U.S. resistance and Gorman's arrogance?

Our good faith has been taken advantage of by two great friends and allies, but we must avoid desperate actions. In our view, and especially in the U.S. case, the government must insist on a dialogue and an understanding that a just agreement must be reached in which neither of the two nations takes excessive advantage.

In addition, the time has come for Hondurans to begin the national task of overcoming the status of banana republic and adjust to a more just and dignified position. This adjustment can only be achieved by increasing and diversifying our production structure and productivity. This will enable us to market our products in all international markets so that we won't have to depend on a single market that claims the right to order our internal and external policies and take advantage of its position as our single importer. By carrying out development tasks we can find a just independence.

GROUP CLAIMS RESPONSIBILITY FOR DISCO BOMBING

PA111339 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1213 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Report by Jorge Diaz]

[Excerpts] The Morazanist Front for the Liberation of Honduras has claimed responsibility for the bombing at the Le Volcanique Discotheque on Morazan Boulevard, according to a leaflet that an alleged cell of that leftist front -- the so-called Catracha Dignity -- distributed after the incident in which several persons, including Hondurans and foreigners, were injured. According to the communique, the explosion sought to kill military personnel participating in the "Big Pine III" military maneuvers who were at the disco.

The terrorists state in their note that under the facade of "Big Pine," the U.S. military, with Honduran accomplices, are insulting the country. The communique states that on 15 February the Poor People's Revolutionary Party and a Morazanist Front commando unit -- Green Beret Captain Skip Raymond Shear, a presumed CIA agent and resident of La Ceiba, and three other gringos -- were the object of a grenade attack, but unfortunately on that occasion the grenades failed to explode. [sentence as heard]

NICARAGUA

3-DAY MOURNING DECREED FOR DEATH OF CHERNENKO

Ortega Heads Delegation to Moscow

PA112007 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1925 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Communique No 13 issued by the Directorate of Press and Information at the Nicaraguan Presidency in Managua on 11 March]

[Text] The Directorate of Press and Information of the Nicaraguan Presidency hereby reports that 3 days of national mourning have been decreed on the occasion of the passing of Companero Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Throughout the time that Companero Chernenko occupied the highest positions of responsibility in the Soviet state and party he demonstrated profound sympathy for the Nicaraguan people's cause and the struggle we have undertaken to attain development and full independence for Nicaragua. The FSLN, the Nicaraguan Government and people also had in Companero Chernenko a leader of world stature who fought tirelessly for peace and detente to benefit humanity.

During this time of national mourning that begins today, flags will fly at half-mast at all Nicaraguan public and military installations. The Directorate of Press and Information of the Nicaraguan Presidency also reports that Nicaraguan President Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra will represent the government and the FSLN at the funeral services for Companero Chernenko. To this effect President Ortega has left for Moscow at the head of a Nicaraguan Government and FSLN delegation.

For peace, all against aggression.

Ortega Comments Before Leaving

PA112039 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1922 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Press conference held by President Daniel Ortega prior to his departure for Konstantin Chernenko's funeral at the Augusto Cesar Sandino Airport; questioners not identified -- live; broadcast in process]

[Text] [Ortega] ...To participate in the funeral of someone who was as closely linked to us and who expressed his solidarity for the Nicaraguan people as Companero Konstantin Chernenko did. We will also travel to Brazil to participate in President Tancredo Neves' inauguration.

[Question] Commander, will you carry a proposal to the meeting with President Neves?

[Ortega] We give special importance to [words indistinct]. We will seek ways to broaden relations between Brazil and Nicaragua. It is logical that since representatives of governments and parties in Latin America and representatives from Europe and other countries of the world will be there, we will once again have the opportunity to present Nicaragua's stand on the urgent need to reach a peaceful solution to current regional problems.

[Question] Will Nicaragua propose amendments to the Contadora Document?

[Ortega] Nicaragua has not nor will it ever propose any amendments to the Contadora Document.

[Question indistinct]

[Ortega] No, no. As long as amendments are not substantial, as long as they do not affect the content of the document, Nicaragua will not vote. [sentence as heard] We have already said that we only accept amendments to the form, not to the substance of the document.

[Question indistinct]

[Ortega] We believe that we must take advantage of any encounter with U.S. representatives to discuss current problems; we cannot ignore them. Should there be an opportunity to meet with Mr Bush, we would certainly take advantage of such great opportunity to further our conversations with Mr Shultz in Montevideo.

[Question] [Words indistinct] Virgilio Godoy said that the government is not willing to talk with the opposition. What do you say to that?

[Ortega] There has been an election here in which Mr Godoy's party participated. His party is represented in the National Constituent Assembly. [Words indistinct] because within Mr Godoy's party itself there are different views as well, there are different viewpoints. In addition, the main forces of the country are represented within the National Constituent Assembly, which constitutes by itself the best stage for a national dialogue.

[Question] Commander, the Sacasa Democratic Coordinating Board and the counterrevolution, especially Arturo Cruz, are demanding that the National Assembly be dismantled and elections convoked. What do you think about this?

[Ortega] The National Assembly was elected by the people. That is the place that we have established for dialogue to take place.

Condolence Message to Gorbachev

PA112016 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1917 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Message of condolence issued by the Nicaraguan Government in Managua]

[Text] Managua, 11 March -- For peace, all against aggression!

Companero Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Moscow, USSR.

Dear Companero: In view of the death of Companero Konstantin Chernenko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, which we deeply regret, I extend to you the condolences of the people and Government of Nicaragua and of the FSLN and hereby request that you extend our sympathy to the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium, USSR Supreme Soviet, to the party, government and Soviet people, an to the family of Companero Chernenko. During the time that Companero Chernenko held the highest ranking offices of the Soviet Government and the party, and even before he held those offices, he displayed a special love and understanding for Nicaragua, which were expressed in the support for the Nicaraguan cause and in the generous cooperation given to our homeland in its struggle for development and independence.

I wish to inform you that the Nicaraguan Government has decreed a 3-day mourning period and that the government I head, as well as the FSLN National Directorate, has appointed me to be present at the funeral services to be held for Companero Chernenko.

[Signed] Daniel Ortega Saavedra, president of the Republic, member of the FSLN National Directorate

Ramirez, Others Sign Condolence Book

PA120347 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Vice President Dr Sergio Ramirez Mercado and the FSLN National Directorate a few moments ago signed the condolence book opened at the Soviet Embassy in Managua because of the death of Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Dr Ramirez Mercado signed first. He was followed by Interior Minister Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge Martinez, who was followed by the other commanders of the revolution in this order: Victor Tirado Lopez, Humberto Ortega Saavedra, Henry Ruiz, Luis Carrion Cruz, Jaime Wheelock, Bayardo Arce Castano, and Carlos Nunez Tellez. Then Minister of the Presidency Rene Nunez signed the book.

At this moment, Nicaraguan citizens from various sectors of the country are stopping at the Soviet Embassy to express their condolence over the death of the distinguished Soviet leader.

MORE ON ORTEGA'S SPEECH ON U.S.-CONTRA TIES

PA111652 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Speech by President Daniel Ortega Saavedra during a ceremony to welcome members of a coffee pickers brigade held at the Morazan Plaza in Matagalpa on 10 March -- recorded]

[Text] Commander Daniel Ortega has stressed that the Reagan administration is not interested in democracy and wants the Somozists and the national guardsmen to come to Nicaragua and govern. However, the Nicaraguan people will not allow this, Ortega asserted.

[Begin recording] The U.S. President is concerned [words indistinct] continues having dictatorships. What he seeks is a return of the dictatorships.

Instead of a people's power, Sandinist power, or peasant, worker, or revolutionary power here in Nicaragua, what Reagan wants is the power of the exploiters, Somoza's power, and the power of the guardsmen here in Nicaragua. However, the Nicaraguan people will no longer accept this. The Nicaraguan people have already buried this. The Nicaraguan people are fighting against this. This does not (?stem) from the Nicaraguan people. [applause, chants]

I do not know if this is because the U.S. President is receiving the wrong advice; however, he probably ignores the reality of these countries. If he were familiar with the situation, he would not be acting this way.

The problem is that he is surrounded by advisers who have always made U.S. foreign policy support military dictatorships and dictatorships like that of Somoza. If the U.S. President was really concerned over friendship with Nicaragua, he would not be acting this way. [Word indistinct] increasingly demonstrates that he wants the Somozist National Guard to return here.

At first, the United States said that the support being given to the mercenary forces was aimed at pressuring the Sandinist government and preventing the smuggling of weapons from Nicaragua to El Salvador. Now, it turns out -- and the U.S. President has clearly said so -- that what he wants is to replace, to remove the Sandinist government. [end recording]

The Nicaraguan president noted that there are people who identify with the CIA's plans and place themselves on the side of the mercenary forces, referring to Arturo Cruz who even visited the camps of the counterrevolutionaries based in Honduras.

[Begin recording] There are people here who consciously or unconsciously identify themselves with the mercenary stands. We say this seriously. We also say unconsciously because we think some people unconsciously side with the mercenary forces because of a lack of understanding of the revolutionary process.

Sometimes I think they are unconscious. I do not think they are conscious because it is difficult to imagine that there are people here in Nicaragua who think like the U.S. President and identify with his policy of aggression.

For instance, the political groups in this country, including those that did not participate in the elections because they did not want to participate in the elections, have had an opportunity to continue holding their meetings and carrying out their activities. Our revolution has granted, even to those political groups, the opportunity to continue carrying out this kind of activity but within the context of a civil strife. In other words, as long as these political groups do not identify themselves with, agree with, or join the mercenary forces that are murdering our people, they will have the opportunity to continue using the political space that exists in this country. Here lies the sense of responsibility that they must have to act in the political arena because the [word indistinct] of the U.S. Administration is to unite the mercenary forces abroad with figureheads who are also abroad. They have already accomplished the first phase of the plan, so to speak.

They have united (?some) mercenary forces there and placed one of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro's sons with the mercenary forces, that is, together with the guardsmen who murdered his father.

They have also placed there Arturo [shouts], an Arturo who is acting as a blind instrument of the mercenaries, who could enter and leave Nicaragua as long as he did not appear involved with the mercenary forces. Now that he appears involved with the mercenary forces, a message has been sent to Arturo not to return to Nicaragua because the people do not want to see him here. [applause, shouts] Therefore, what Arturo must do now is go, together with Chamorro's son, to the camps in Honduras and settle there. Let them settle there. That is the best place. Arturo has already been to the camps. He harassed the mercenary forces, told them that he was not as brave as they are, and that (?he expected them) to accompany him. The truth is that Arturo became an accomplice there of the killings of children, women, and the elderly. He did not become a friend of God. He became an enemy of God and a friend of Satan. [applause]

And I am going to tell you (?something else). As an emissary of the contras abroad, Arturo was simply going to enter Nicargua, as they expected, meet with the members of the Coordinating Board [Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board -- CDN], get the Episcopal Conference involved and suddenly there would be great unity between the mercenary forces abroad and the political forces inside Nicaragua. That is something that cannot be possible in this country.

Thus, this has been communicated to the CDN through the Interior Ministry. It is either consciously involved in this little plan or efforts are being made to become involved in it through the CIA's [word indistinct] because it happens that when Arturo was banned from entering Nicaragua some CDN representatives immediately left for Costa Rica. This coincides with a Central American [word indistinct] meeting in Costa Rica and the president of the Episcopal Conference, as well as the other Nicarguan bishop in Costa Rica, will most certainly be there.

Therefore, they have been clearly told that whoever teams up with the mercenary forces, whoever joins the aggressive policy of the imperialist aggressive power, whoever teams up with Sandino's murderers, whoever teams up with Carlos' murderers, whoever teams up with the murderers of Nicaraguan children, women, the elderly, and workers had better go to the camps because he will be finished in this country politically. [end recording]

SPANISH TERRITORIAL MINISTER ENDS 2-DAY VISIT

PA111239 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1118 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Managua, 8 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- Tomas de la Cuadra Salcedo, Spanish minister of territorial administration, met in this capital with President Daniel Ortega and with Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto.

During his 2-day visit to this capital, which ended yesterday, the official emphasized the Spanish Government's interest in suggestions that would make peace in Central America possible. "In this regard," he stressed, "my government's support of the Contadora Group (Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and Panama) is clear." The official told ACAN-EFE that his visit to Nicaragua expresses the Spanish Government's desire to continue cooperating with this country in the local administration field.

At the Sandino airport, the minister was bid farewell by Deputy Interior Minister Commander Luis Carrion Cruz, also a member of the FSLN National Directorate.

"Beyond seeing how cooperation with this country is developing, my visit expresses the support and brotherhood of the Spanish people toward the Nicaraguan people," De la Cuadra Salcedo added. The minister said that after acquiring experience in the past few months on the implementation of the cooperation plan with Nicaragua, "we can make corrections and the necessary adjustments to intensify our support of programs to aid Nicaragua."

De la Cuadra Salcedo arrived in this capital on Wednesday from Honduras, and after a tight schedule of meetings, continued his tour of the region by traveling to Costa Rica.

YUGOSLAVS ARRIVE FOR MIXED COMMISSION MEETING

PA112249 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] A high-level Yugoslav Government delegation headed by Mito Pejovski, member of the Federal Executive Council, arrived yesterday at Sandino airport to hold the first meeting of the mixed commission formed by Yugoslavia and Nicaragua.

Commander Henry Ruiz, minister of foreign cooperation, and Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco greeted the distinguished Yugoslav delegation at the airport. The Nicaraguan-Yugoslav mixed commission was formed in 1983, Pejovski said, and within the framework of these relations, Nicaragua has used a $10-million credit granted by Yugoslavia to purchase equipment. Companero Pejovski noted that a review of these relations will make it possible for the two governments to sign new agreements and undertake new programs.

EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE TAKES NO STAND ON MEDIATION

PA101517 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Text] The Nicaraguan Episcopal Conference maintains that it holds no official position on whether it would participate as a mediator in a dialogue between the Somozist guardsmen who kill children, women, and unarmed civilians and destroy production centers, and the government that emerged from the people's will, as expressed by a majority vote, the likes of which have never before been recorded in Nicaraguan history.

A Washington envoy has announced that he would come to Managua to propose the role of mediator to the Catholic Church, following CIA instructions.

CDN COMMUNIQUE STATES STAND ON NATIONAL DIALOGUE

PA081721 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 6 Mar 85 pp 1, 12

[Text] The Democratic Coordinating Board (CDN) has reiterated its willingness to hold a dialogue with all the country's political sectors, in search of a peaceful solution to the grave Nicaraguan situation.

In a communique released today, the CDN states: To the Nicaraguan People: In view of invitations recently extended or suggested by the Sandinist Front government to the sectors that comprise the CDN, in order to hold specific talks about the sector's problems, we announce this to the public:

1. The CDN, a faithful believer in the civilized way of solving mutual problems through dialogue, has deemed it both suitable and timely for the sectors that comprise it to heed any appeal made to them which seeks solutions to our countless problems.

2. The CDN remains, and will at all times remain, completely informed of any development in which its sectors participate.

3. The CDN in general, and its sectors in particular, remain fully convinced that the problems that affect each and every one of its sectors -- labor, political, and business -- have a solely political origin, and that it is not through partial dialogue that the peace, progress, stability, social, and economic development to which we all aspire will be achieved, but through a single national dialogue, in which all of us who have the happiness of being Nicaraguans can participate.

4. We reiterate our request to the Nicaraguan Episcopal Conference, made through our communique issued on 22 February, so through national dialogue called by the conference, the violence and uncertainty that we Nicaraguans are suffering can be ended.

Managua, 5 March

COURT DENIES CONSERVATIVE PARTY LEGAL STATUS

PA080440 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] The Supreme Court of Justice has ruled that the appeal submitted by the Nicaraguan Conservative Party to revoke an August 1984 decision by the National Council of Political Parties has no place. The National Conservative Party, led by Miriam Arguello, submitted a request to the National Council of Political Parties to obtain the party's legal status, which was not granted because the National Conservative Party is a minor group that left the ranks of the Democratic Conservative Party due to internal partisan conflicts.

The Supreme Court of Justice says there is a valid reason not to accept Miriam Arguello's request. This means that the National Conservative Party has been denied legal status. Any future requests for recognition as a political party should be under a different party name and according to the guidelines established by the political parties law.

QUORUM OF 60 PERCENT MAY APPROVE CONSTITUTION

PA081844 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] The National Assembly decided last night that the constitution can be discussed and approved by a 60-percent quorum of its members. The Assembly made the decision last night despite the strong opposition of non-Sandinist representatives. This means that even if the representatives of the Independent Liberal Party, the Popular Social Christian Party [PPSC], the Conservative Party, the Socialist Party, the Communist Party of Nicaragua, and the Marxist-Leninist Popular Action Party walk out of the session, the Sandinist majority of 61 representatives can perfectly well continue working on the constitution.

Trade union leader Antonio Jarquin, of the PPSC, said this is an undemocratic decision because the FSLN represents less than 50 percent of the electorate.

CASTRO ADDRESSES CLOSING SESSION OF FMC CONGRESS

FL082340 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2216 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Speech by President Fidel Castro at closing session of Fourth FMC Congress, given at Havana's Karl Marx Theater -- live]

[Text] Distinguished guest delegations; women and men comrades:

The program has been intense. What has been done and what remains to be done today... [laughter, applause] Time is scarce in organizing ideas as well as expressing them. Therefore, I am going to try to synthesize where possible and to be as brief as possible. [laughter, applause]

The impression I have and the one that is shared by many comrades is that a great congress has taken place. [applause] I even listened to some comments that frightened me [laughter], such as that of Comrade Fernandez, who told me: There are great expectations. It was probably my second scare within a few hours. Because I already said, as someone said to me: Where are they [the women] going to take us? [laughter] And now there are expectations. I do not know if its affect will be positive or negative; although, they added that they had gained a very good impression of the congress. I do not know if the men are as frightened as I am or if the women are as hopeful as I am. [laughter, applause]

Well then, these could merely be alarmist speculations because when I inquired further, they told me: No, no news from the front. [laughter] All is quiet. [laughter] There has not been any insurrection by the men in the country. [laughter] There is no reason for one and there is no reason for any special expectations because the people have been receiving reports about everything that has been discussed.

They said this congress was going to be on television. I said don't put it on television; I am talking among family at the congress. And they wanted to relieve me of some concern, saying someone is going to explain things clearly. But when I read the newspaper, I found that it was almost all there. Reporting almost all is bad because in such circumstances, one prefers either everything or nothing be reported because sometimes, just one little word is misused and reporters, who are certainly not bad people, include more ideas than international reporters, who lack both space and time to report on various topics. But some problems are so delicate and so complex that when they delete a phrase or three words, I myself, am in doubt about what I said [laughter] when I read about it in the newspaper.

That is not a criticism of journalists, on the contrary. They have performed very well. But they have been dealing with some very complex subjects such as the problems of discrimination, or the application of moral parameters, or whether this is a rebirth of bourgeois morality.

Perhaps it should be said that morality does not belong only to the bourgeoisie. Perhaps some of the precepts stem from the time of slavery, or the old days, or the Middle Ages or later from the bourgeoisie. There are some principles that have permanent value. And every society adds something or takes something away from those principles. Actually, what we meant was the preeminence of applying in a discriminating and unequal way these very principles. What we have been saying was that these themes, quite complex and very interesting, have been under discussion, and I do not know if this discussion is the cause of the expectations or of the alarm, whatever you choose to call it. No?

There has been hard work and much discussion. And it seems to me that the correct conclusions have been drawn. There is nothing that is absolutely important. The most important thing happened on 1 January 1959 [applause], it was when the revolution

triumphed. Everything that followed is a consequence of the triumph of the revolution, with a capital R, and without quotation marks. [laughter]

The past 5 years work was studied after the third congress was held... [rephrases] They remembered to bring some water. The advances made after the third congress were really significant, which were reflected in the report and it can be said that there was a jump in quality in this area as well as in many other aspects of the revolution. The organization grew by 400,000 new FMC members, and it especially grew by adding young members. With our better prepared, better educated, and more revolutionary youth, we now have some 2,764,000 FMC members. I don't know why Manolo Ortega wrote off more than 14,000 FMC members [laughter] when he said here that there were 2,750,000 members. Perhaps he wrote off the number of new members, but to not undermine what one member described as the not so new. [laughter] These are without a dbout the ones who are better prepared. I believe all of us are aware of that.

The FMC has grown in quality and in organization. Some 83 percent of the Cuban women between the ages of 14 and 65 -- I do not understand these limits very well, but the percentage has decreased because lifespan has been extended, and the number of people over 65 years of age and in good health has increased. Maybe they introduced some modifications because you cannot limit membership in an organization and bar the many women who are retired or who are housewives and are in just the right circumstances to serve the organization.

The preparatory level of cadres has risen both in the political area and the general instruction area. Almost 70 percent, a high figure, of the members have completed pre-university level and 4 percent of them have completed university level. I suppose these figures will continue to increase.

The work over these past 5 years can best be measured by the results. In all fields one can concretely see that things which were planned at the third congress have been completed and one could almost say that they have been completed in an outstanding manner. On the matter of incorporating women into the work force, and I remember during the time of the third congress, the preoccupation, because we did not know for sure just how much the economy would grow due to international economic problems which could be seen, if we would have employment for the growing number of women. We even wondered if we should emphasize this or not, taking into account what the necessities were, if there was going to be a situation where young males were going to be unemployed. Nevertheless, reality has worked out differently. The period during which there were more women entering the work force was during this time, during all the years of the revolution. The figures can be seen in the main report.

During the second congress there were 590,000 women who entered the work force, and at the time of the third congress, there were some 800,000. This amount grew by more than 200,000 women.

During this last period, we have seen this grow with more than 300,000 additional women entering the work force. There are two figures, one which was given in the report, correlated some time ago of some 1,100,000 women in the work force in production and services. Comrade Veiga spoke about a figure of 1,142,000 from an up-to-date study. That is to say that in 5 years, some 342,000 women have been incorporated into the work force. This is tremendously significant if we consider what has been reiterated here many times. At the beginning the prejudices and inequality were such that it became necessary to carry out a great effort and a concentrated campaign to incorporate women into the work center. That is reflected in the fact that when the revolution occurred, only 12 percent of the workers were women. It is obvious that there were many women who wanted to work and were not able to find employment. But when that demand was satisfied, we encountered other problems, prejudices, and even the lack of possibilities for hiring women.

At the time there were not enough schools. Today there are more than 500,000 students attending secondary or pre-university schools. There are more than 400,000 youths attending semi-boarding schools today. We did not have then the more than 800,000 child care centers we have today. But there were many prejudices, and many people had to be persuaded to hire women. Many families, many husbands had to be persuaded to permit women to work.

Today more than 37 percent of the work force is made up of women. That is proof of the progress we have made. In light of those figures, one asks which other Latin American countries can say that more than 37 percent of their work force is made up of women. I am not saying 37 percent of the work force are women in whorehouses, or working at similar jobs, such as in bars and other places where there is no respect or consideration for women. This alone represents great progress. But women are not only holding jobs in stores, markets, or other places where a high degree of technological training is required. There are women working in public health, not in low-level activities requiring very little education, but thousands and thousands working as physicians at higher levels. They work as nurses, as laboratory technicians, and in related positions. Not only are there women working in the education sector as primary schoolteachers, but they are professors in secondary and pre-university schools, technological institutes, and others. They can also be found at the highest level of education, where approximately 43 percent of the university professors are women. The same thing can be said of research centers. The main thing, as the report stated, is that a growing percentage of women have joined the most diverse productive activities. They can be found in factories working not only as laborers but as high-level technicians. Not only can they be found in the textile industry but also in the machine industry, and many other industries such as the sugar industry, which in the past were considered to be the exclusive domain of men.

It was mentioned here that 20 percent of the work force in Santa Clara's machine industry or in Moa's projects are women. Women's participation in other activities continues to grow, not only as technicians but as qualified workers. Among those industries, for example construction, this same progress can be seen in the fact that 53.8 percent of the country's technicians are women. That progress in this field is a really strategic success, a success which can be guaranteed by the fact that more than 50 percent of our university students are women. Not only do they outnumber men in number and in percentage, but they also outrank them in quality of work performed. This explains the yearly growth with respect to the growth of the male force. I have some figures here. In 1980, the growth of the male work force amounted to 0.3 percent. This is clear. If the proportion of men working was greater... [sentence imcomplete]

If the proportion of men working... [rephrases] Then the percent of 2 million, the 10,000 out of 2 million is not the same as 10,000 out of 1 million. In the first case, 10,000 represents 5 percent growth and in the second case it represents 10 percent growth. But at any rate, the figure is significant. Because in that same year of 1980, the increase in the female work force was 5.4 percent. In 1981, the increase in the male work force was 2.8 percent and that of the female work force was 8.2 percent. In 1982, the male work force grew by 4.7 percent and the female work force grew by 8.3 percent. In 1983, the male work force grew by 5.3 percent and the female by 8.3. In 1984, the male work force grew by 3.2 and the female by 5.7.

It is logical that as the number of women workers approaches the number of men workers, these figures are getting closer together. One should bear in mind that a considerable number of women -- although I do not believe the figures have changed basically -- are working in the country's defense and security organizations. It has been necessary to employ a large number of men in this activity. Now, a growing number of women are joining the defense and security organizations. But the total number of men in defense and security activities would not fundamentally alter the number of women participating in the basic activities of the country.

Really, this phenomenon in our society and, I believe, in other Latin American societies, truly constitutes a revolution. How many years had to pass before this could be achieved! How many centuries, how many millennia!

The result of 26 years of revolution, with a capital R and without quotation marks, has been to change women's activities regarding what they receive from our society, the dignity of women in our society, changes in the ways the capitalist society in our country provided employment and a way of earning a living to women. This occurred when old concepts were abandoned, deprivations were eliminated, and shameless and indecorous activities were given up. Nevertheless, we are aware that we have not yet fully achieved victory. And as we have said on other occasions, one of the revolution's most difficult tasks and goals -- the one that takes the longest to achieve -- involves discrimination against women, which still is manifested to a certain degree in our society.

There are several causes for this. They have not yet been overcome. Some are subjective others objective. There has been much discussion of this in the congress. Practically an entire day was taken up with questions regarding access to jobs by women, of the difficulties that still exist due to various forms of discrimination. Also discussed were questions regarding promotions.

I believe the measure of a revolution is when one can say that it was the period when the number of women entering the work force grew the most, in figures that approach 50 percent -- 80,000 to 1,142,000. Between 40 and 50 percent, if the mathematics I studied in my day -- it was not as good as that of the present day -- does not deceive me, 342,000 to more than 800,000, more than 40 percent in just 5 years.

Nevertheless, the fact that we spent an entire day discussing these problems shows that we are working hard on these problems, such as when any form of discrimination appears. We are not irritated by the number of cases, just one case of discrimination would be sufficient to irritate us. It does not have to be something that occurs commonly for us to be concerned, and I imagine that the great majority of the country -- the men and women who have responsibility -- fulfill the policy outlined by the party; but wherever there is a case of discrimination, even though uncommon, we must fight against it, such as the cases that were pointed out here.

There have been cases of a man and a woman asking for employment, both having equal skills, and the man was selected, not because he was better prepared, but simply because the other applicant was a woman, because of the problems dealing with pregnancy and unavoidable absences during certain periods. These things make us angry. There are other cases which provoke greater anger, such as preferences of one woman over another because of personal sympathy or physical aspect. [applause] This reminds us of very repugnant practices in the days of capitalism. I feel that a true revolutionary, a conscious and humane man cannot allow himself to act as such.

Matters dealing with evaluations were discussed. This topic was discussed at length. We heard Comrade Veiga explain the measures being adopted in that respect, and the desire to continue overcoming bad behavior, or better said, thoughtless actions because certain factors are not taken into consideration when women's evaluations are made at work centers. [Words indistinct] also those difficulties. We will overcome them.

In this connection, some problems and objectives were discussed. Problems of women's responsibilities at home, with the family were discussed. Despite the articles of the family code, articles which are not strictly juridical but political and moral, they have had good results, above all with the new generation. But real and objective circumstances, such as the fact that in institutions -- in this case hospitals and child care centers were mentioned with regard to the period of the child's adaptation to the center -- there were concrete limitations such as parents not being able to accompany a child in a pediatrics hospital and similar situations.

There were cases of fathers whose wives were fulfilling internationalist missions, or ill wives or having problems which made it impossible for them to stay with the child in the hospital. In this respect, there was discussion of other problems of those accompanying children, such as men being forced to fulfill this function.

This does not mean that every sick person must have someone accompanying him as a general rule. An adult does not need someone to accompany him in the hospital. But the case of a child is different. The child needs to have a mother or some other relative with him. It helps in the treatment. This policy was a great jump forward by our hospitals. It was demonstrated during the dengue epidemic when all hospitals were filled. We did not have enough nurses to go around to provide good treatment, but a mother would be there on duty 24 hours a day. This was a great progress. In the case of children, it was very important. In the case of adults, there could be instances when the very presence of a person who accompanies the ill could lift the spirit. But the rule was that men could not stay with ill persons in the hospitals.

This was discussed, agreements were reached, realistic objectives were examined, even the women's and man's characteristics were examined. Not everyone agreed on this. The physicians were concerned about the behavior of one and the other. It would not be surprising that the education of each, environment in which they were raised could have an impact on this. The problems, objective possibilities were examined to start these practices in pediatrics hospitals, or in maternity hospitals having adequate facilities. One of the major drawbacks was the wards of the older hospitals, which are unlike the new ones. We studied this problem at the Almeijera Brothers [a hospital], at those types of hospitals with small cubicles for one or two persons; all these factors were studied. The opinions of the ministry and that of several doctors were heard, and it was decided to take [word indistinct] in principle. It was decided to start this policy in the pediatrics hospitals and conduct a study to decide whether to implement it in all hospitals. It is possible that there will be a meeting of all hospital directors to study closely the problems and the possibilities; to study what should be done, and how we should do it, by hearing about various experiences on how they have done things and how they have taken care of problems such as the (?lack) of medicine through meetings with staffs of professors. In this same theater, one time, thousands of medical professors met to concretely study the problems in a good way without creating any types of problems or disrupting our hospitals, but to study ways of advancing these policies which would really do away with the prohibitions found in many cases, hard cases -- hard for a family member who is sick, or is not sick but has someone in the hospital. Such prohibitions existed in many cases which were hard cases, not exceptional cases, but when a couple decides that one or the other will enter a hospital. Only the involved couple can make this decision, because this cannot be an administrative decision or one that is decreed.

The state committees on work, salaries, and social services were worried whether this would bring about a certain amount of indiscipline or pretexts for absences from work. It was proposed that this should not be limiting factor. We have better ways and policies of fighting absenteeism rather than using a precept of forbiding something which on one hand discriminates against men, although some had really worked for, and on the other contributes to obstructing the promotion of women and their incorporation into the work force.

These are new problems which have come up. A number of years ago there existed the feeling that a mother should not be working. Advances were made, and it was put forth that this was a problem, especially for the new generation. The problem, in my opinion was taken up in a correct manner and will also have a correct solution. This also applies to the case of child care centers, as I mentioned before, and to other activities in which in an objective manner, precepts, customs, or factors which would hinder the application of a certain policy, were contributing to discrimination and unjust evaluations of a woman's possibilities.

Also discussed was something I mentioned at the start about different moral parameters being applied to judge the conduct of men and women. And it was not said to spread to the female population the bad habits or indiscipline of men. We should never spread the worst in this matter, but in all cases the best.

As I said, although, it was not in the newspaper, we were not trying to elaborate on rules of conduct. I said that socialism had not really thought about establishing such a code, but the revolution continues to generate new values and new ideas, [word indistinct], principles, and morality in solidarity. I do not know if some day someone will finish the codification. I believe we should adapt the best values from the society of men. This is what we must propagate and spread, the values of solidarity, and the fight against egoism, and the irrational impulses that a person can have. Always be a society apart from certain values. What cannot be had, is the application of certain parameters or values to men and different ones to women. I do not know if this is the cause of mutterings at the bus stops, where there have been such mutterings about the expectations that Fernandez was telling me about. I do not believe this. In any case, we would have to find out the age of those who are muttering. [applause]

The matter of promoting women was studied. It was said that there had been advances in certain areas and in certain ways. It was pointed out, and this is nothing new, that for example, [words indistinct] 51 percent or perhaps 60 percent of the members of cadre directorates are women.

The leadership is made up of women. In the Federation of University Students, about 48 percent are women. This was not reflected in the same manner in other activities.

The trade union sector was mentioned. It is nothing new that a high proportion of women hold responsible posts in the unions, even though in this area, as in many other fields, at the rank and file level women only comprised 47 percent. This is outstanding if one takes into consideration that the male work force proportion is much greater still. We said that we have reached 37 [percent]. This means that 63 percent belongs to the male work force. [as received] Many things cause this, sometimes objective problems, as I mentioned before. The great burden the woman carries when she wants to work and has to take the child to the hospital, or has to accompany her mother or grandmother to the hospital, and in addition has to go to the store, dry cleaners, laundry, and the famous laundromats. [laughter] The number of those laundromats has increased and they are believed to be a great help for the women. Why should they be a great help for women? Why should she be the one who goes to the laundry, dry cleaners, laundromats, the one who cooks, the one who goes to the store? That is why the improvement of services, repair of television sets, radios, washing machines was discussed, even a great improvement in recent years was mentioned. There was satisfaction to note the improvement in those services is something that helps women. But why should it help women? Because they carry the heaviest burden. I do not know if the female scientists have help in this. They have a lot of work. The same thing with the physicians. I imagine they also do this type of work. It is not dishonorable to do this type of work, but I ask myself: Should this growing female technical force not be helped by the men in those activities? [applause]

We said that because of that enormous burden, the promotion of women becomes more difficult, or because of the prejudices in dealing with women, one asks, can they do this task, or assume this leadership? The subjective factors, and almost everything begins there, should be overcome, that is, the machismo prejudices which we have inherited some of these prejudices from the Arabs and some from the Spaniards. The Arabs remained in Spain some 800 years, and the Spaniards were here some 400 years. We have a legacy. It is cultural, in our blood, and so forth. I am not criticizing. I am relating historical facts, which is not the same. I have no desire to offend anyone, and I have utmost respect for the customs and creeds of all countries. I repeat, respect.

But we live in another country, in another era, with different ideas, with different concepts, in the midst of a revolution. We also have determined cultural inheritances, even though this machismo concept does not only occur in Latin American or in Arab countries. There is a lot of machismo and women are discriminated against in Western capitalist countries, as well.

We only have to refer to the information published by the news media. They were mentioning yesterday what takes place in the United States and other Western countries, where women are paid half the salary for doing the same job. This is a generalized phenomenon and even though some of these problems are derived from religious beliefs, national beliefs, or national customs, they are mainly derived from the capitalist exploitation system, and the capitalist system manages to exploit women to a maximum. It not only exploits and discriminates against women, it also exploits and discriminates against children.

We must struggle against these realities and these discriminatory ideas. That is a task of education and awareness, but this not only refers to men; it also refers, and I dare to say, most of all, to women. [applause]

I think that the men in our country have advanced with regard to their prejudices. Perhaps they have advanced even more than the women in this regard. There exists a generalized belief among women that such and such work can be better done by a man, or that some work can be better performed by a man, because a man does not have to give birth to children, or bear children, according to the hospital director in Guines. Now, looking at Guillen, I do not know which is more poetic: give birth to a child or bear a child. [laughter] The poets will say give birth to a child, for example, give birth to a child at dawn, when the sun's first rays light up the day, and so forth. [laughter] And the hospital director tells us: A woman will bear a child in the swimming pool [laughter] and the woman gives birth in a swimming pool, in fact. This is new technology, considered superior to any others; thanks to this the babies are born in the water, our hope for winning Olympic medals in the future. [laughs] [laughter, applause] Men cannot fulfill this natural, or social, if you wish, task, so it is believed that they are better. Because men cannot get pregnant [laughter] they do not need maternity leave. [laughter] For this and other reasons, it is forbidden for men to bring children to the hospital when there are women who can do it. Of course, we must be objective and accept certain realities. We have to eliminate prohibitions that are irrational and create more facilities for women, because this is also important, especially while old ideas tend to prevail. However, the system should be equally useful for the mother and the father, mainly because the father should share in the responsibility. If we do not have child care centers, we will have to stay home and take care of the children. [laughter]

There are certain material matters that must be reorganized, but we have a subjective element that must be overcome; the result will be well worth the struggle. In fact, one is surprised because we recall that although a great part of the burden still falls on the women's shoulders, a noticeably increasing number of women, despite this rivalry, work, perform in a distinguished manner, and fulfill their duty.

This is a fact. What do we see now? Yes, what do we see? We have observed that female students in secondary and pre-university years attain higher grades than men. Women are more disciplined and more devoted to study. During our selection of medical students, we have found it necessary to choose only the very best. If we consider only their respective grades, two of every three candidates would be women. Two. [applause]

We have tried to have an equal number of men and women perform the various tasks and missions. We have even considered the possibility of marriages among medical students, so that if they should be assigned to an internationalist mission, family ties would be preserved. Our success in overcoming our bias is not the only factor to consider; our internationalist mission members also have to take into consideration each particular country.

We cannot rest assured that the biases of half of the countries of the world have been overcome just because we have overcome ours. So we have had to establish a quota of approximately half men and half women. In addition, there are some restrictions based on their records. They must have at least 90 points and in many provinces men have not attained the minimum 90 points. As a result, there are always 52 percent women and 48 percent men.

We will not lower our standard of not enrolling students scoring less than 90 points. For this reason, we will have a larger number of women. [applause] There are times when a woman's minimum is 91 or 92 points. It has even been sometimes difficult for a candidate having 93 points to enroll in higher studies.

We have analyzed the labor situation. Between 1980 and 1984 of every 10 unemployed people, 7 were men and 3 were women. During this period, more than 96 percent of women stayed in their jobs. This percentage was higher than that for men during the same period. I asked Veiga [not further identified] and was told that 85 percent of women did their duties. Again, this percentage is above that attained by men. [applause]

In the militia, women are more punctual and more disciplined than men. [applause] And women behave better socially than men. So what factors can prevent or justify a lack of promotion of women? Biases in men and women must be combated. We know that these things do happen, but we cannot expect that these biases will immediately be overcome so that women can be promoted. Women must abandon some of their own concepts and prejudices. This problem has been apparent many times when women have been promoted and have said: No, I cannot do this task, or another woman has said: No, do not assume this responsibility.

It is true that those objective factors that we mentioned previously do exist. The reason is that the difficulty involved becomes greater because of the mental attitude. We have had women nominated to become area delegates who did not want to be elected to the position, despite their qualifications. Some of these factors and prejudices of women and men, plus objective factors, explain why only 11 percent of women are delegates freely nominated and elected by the masses... [rephrases] These delegates constitute the basis for people's power in municipalities, provinces, and the nation and are not proposed by the party, but by the area residents, who nominate and elect them freely, without any party participation. So only 11 percent of the area delegates are women. In the provinces, the number is higher, while those in the National Assembly reach 22 percent. Of course, a different type of work is done by the National Assembly.

All this should give us a clear idea that objective and subjective factors are present that make promotion of women difficult. Our women have demonstrated intelligence, a revolutionary attitude, spirit, and sense of responsibility. It is the duty of our society, our revolution, our party, and our state to struggle tenaciously to overcome these difficulties. This is precisely what was most intensely debated during this congress.

Of course, the report indicated many other things, such as the important work in the field of health carried out by the Women's Federation, the various health promotion drives in which the federation participates, and the work carried out by more than 57,000 sanitation brigade members that has been so important for the improvement of our general health standards, and the reduction of our infant mortality rate to between 15 and 16 percent. Life expectancy has increased, and our efforts in an early detection of cancer have saved countless lives.

This is very important. In the near future, we will continue our efforts to improve our standards. We can and should improve them. The infant mortality rate has been reduced to 15 per thousand. This is one of the lowest among the 15 leading countries in the world. But we must continue to struggle, even if it is in successive steps. I am sure we will succeed. We will have to make a special effort this year.

This year in particular, we will have to strive harder. We have commented on the needs of all the provinces, but some provinces, three provinces, in fact, reached lower levels: Havana City [as heard], Matanzas, and Camaguey. Others were between 17 to 18. The eastern provinces suffered a higher rate. Yesterday, I received the figures on this year's performance. This year, as of 26 February, we have reached a higher rate; unfortunately, between 1.6 to 1.7 higher. Although the rate went down in some provinces, it went up in others. It especially rose in the city of Havana, mostly due to a high number of acute respiratory ailments. We must look into this to see what happened, whether a new virus, weather conditions, or objective or subjective factors could have had a bearing on this situation. We must look into this. Otherwise, since we have started off the year with this problem, we run the risk of not lowering the rate in 1985; in fact we could experience a slight increase. We must look into this problem. The party, the popular power, cannot neglect any sort of increase. This could be very important, especially to see what can and should be done.

We must make an optimum effort in all health services. Women, the FMC, must wage a constant battle, even if the country's successes are closely linked to the work done by physicians and health organizations, as well as by mass organizations.

There is a factor contributing to the mortality rate that also affects the health of women. The problem stems from early or teenage pregnancies. Undoubtedly, this has been one of the areas which undermines the country's and the FMC's efforts in particular. This is noticeable chiefly in the eastern provinces and mountainous regions, where there are marriages at a very early age and very young mothers. According to experts, teenagers, young women who have not yet fully matured, face higher health risks in many ways. This situation can cause serious problems for these mothers. Early pregnancy and motherhood bring all sorts of complications. We must disseminate information on the effects of early motherhood on women. The child is also affected, not only in terms of the infant mortality rate; but in pregnancies in mothers who do not yet have the physical maturity for pregnancy and childbearing. To this [the higher mortality rate] we must add the lack of experience, thereby increasing not only the number of deaths but all sorts of ailments: birth defects, brain damage from a lack of oxygen, and so forth. In sum, not only is the mother in danger, but the child also faces physical and mental risks. Since we are aware of that situation, we must disseminate information to make the people aware of it. We must strive to reduce the problem until it is totally eradicated, eradicating the factors that lead to early motherhood.

There is another vast area in which the FMC's work is of the utmost importance: the area of education. This was discussed in a report on the various initiatives, including the work of the Brigades of Combatant Mothers for Education [Brigadas de Madres Combatientes por la Educacion]. More than 12,000 of these brigades are comprised of more than 1.7 million mothers. These mothers work in schools and children's circles; participate in the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR], in schools for fathers, and participate in campaigns to upgrade schools initiated in Pinar del Rio Province. I must also point out the FMC's effort for cultural improvement, first in the sixth grade and now in the ninth grade. I also understand that there are more women participating in the worker-peasant education classes than men.

In addition to the FMC's efforts in the education and political growth of its own members, its efforts in general education and political development programs are very important; its quality continues to improve.

Regarding the area of education and the role of women, we must say that education is not the sole responsibility of women. The role of the parents and the home is decisive and essential. I have the results of some research by various organizations on this topic. They are very interesting and we will look at them shortly. Why does a youth develop antisocial behavior? Why does a youth grow up with criminal tendencies? How does the family influence children's academic performance? It is all here in these reports.

They not only discuss the influence of the family but also of other materialistic factors. They all influence the academic performance and behavior of children and teenagers. This confirms something that the revolution has often reiterated: Education is not only the task of schools, teachers, and professors, but education greatly depends on the home environment and the parents. [applause] When there is no control over the children, when the parents do not care whether the children go to school; when they tolerate failure to attend school, then the schools cannot do much for those children.

From the very beginning, the revolution has stressed the importance of this. I believe that you might remember the barbarity of the first few years of the revolution when CIA agents and counterrevolutionaries circulated rumors that we would take away paternal authority. Many people believed them. That was why many easily frightened families sent their sons to Miami and thus many families were separated. That is what happened to many of these poor youths. [Words indistinct] this is absurd. This is nothing new; it is just another false accusation against socialism. This has happened in other countries. This kind of accusation was also made at the time of the October Revolution. The revolution has actually made a permanent call and demands that the nuclear family help educate the new generation.

The report's purpose was to present a short summary of the problems and current family conditions that contribute to deviations in the development of a student's personality. To prepare this report, 16 related research projects were cited. Those research projects were conducted by specialists of the Psychology Departments of the Universities of Havana and Villa Clara, the Ministries of Education and Public Health, the Centers for Diagnosis and Orientation of (?Children), National Directorate of the Federation of Cuban Women of the [name indistinct], and the Interior Ministry. The report analyzed two categories: youths without problems, with normal behavior and school performance; and youths with behavioral problems, rather significant behavioral problems. This research involved 3,800 children and covered the entire country. They were all approximately 7 years old and all were born during the same week. The researchers studied the characteristics of these 7-year-old Cuban children.

The results were significant. The study provided subjective as well as objective factors. However, when objective factors cannot be overcome, like overcrowding in some households, then we must put more emphasis on subjective factors. The research studied the relationship between the child's living conditions, the parent's educational level, and the importance of attaining a sixth or ninth grade education. The effect of working mothers on the students' school performance, educational maturity, as well as physical measurements of their growth is interesting.

The results obtained demonstrate that there is a close positive relationship among the variables mentioned here. For example, the capacity for mental work is satisfactory in 78.1 percent of children from families with the best living conditions. This contrasts significantly with the group of children who live in homes where conditions are not as good, among whom only 38.9 percent developed a capacity for good mental activity at school. I do not think this has to do with the child's congenital capacity. This has to do with several scales.

The difference between the two groups is nearly 40 points. Analyzing performance tests in mathematics, reading, and writing, a similar pattern can be observed. 89 percent of the children with a higher standard of living performed well on the reading and writing test. This contrasted sharply with the children in less favorable conditions. Only 37.8 percent of those performed well. The difference between the two groups is more than 50 points. A similar irregularity occurred on the mathematics test.

Another significant pattern has been observed in the scores achieved by students in their reading, writing, and mathematics tests in relation to their mothers' education. We will have to include fathers in future studies. It has been observed that 90.7 percent of children in the group with mothers with 13 or more years of education scored well on the reading and writing tests while 68.6 percent of students whose mothers had studied for 13 or more years scored well in mathematics. Unfortunately, despite the importance of mathematics, students fall short in this field and achieve lower scores than in the reading and writing test. However, 68.6 percent of students whose mothers have reached 13 or more years of education have good scores, while only 35 percent of students whose mothers with between zero and 3 years of education achieved good scores in the reading and writing test, and only 31.4 percent of these students scored well in the mathematics test. This demonstrates the importance of subjective factors such as the mothers' schooling.

We now come to an interesting fact. When we consider the relationship between working mothers and the results of the reading and writing, as well as mathematics, tests, scholastic aptitude, and work capability, we see that children of working mothers achieve higher scores than those students whose mothers do not work. [applause] Perhaps this should be considered with some analysis regarding the possible influence of the technical ability of women, which we might describe as technical power. It would be advisable to determine what percentage of women can be considered as technicians and whether this could influence the observations. Education might also have an influence, as well as habits and other factors, but the situation is encouraging.

In the cases of troublesome boys who experience difficulties and engage in antisocial behavior we have observed 2,200 cases of minors who engaged in antisocial behavior. The result of 15 studies was the following -- this explains some problems against which we must struggle and that are not easy to eliminate: Approximately 80.7 percent of these youths are between 10 and 16 years old. A high percentage of school absenteeism was observed, between 40 and 70 percent in the various surveys. School absenteeism is one of the main causes for late adolescent misbehavior of boys engaged in antisocial activities. The report goes like this: It was observed that the group of minors considered... [rephrases] Here is another fact: In the groups of minors studied, males form the majority. Unfortunately, males comprise between 90 and 100 percent of all cases considered. They are far ahead in this. As can be seen, the group of minors studied present negative characteristics in their development, and their formation shows a deficient quality.

It is significant that the school's influence upon these minors is limited by the high absentee rate. Regarding the characteristics of the family environment of the minors considered, the most important is a high percentage of divorced parents, between 55 and 90 percent. In these cases in general, the mother does not exert any educational influence...[rephrases] I mean, the father does not exert any educational influence on the minor. This interesting factor influences the minor's behavior.

I think that some day we will also have to analyze the factors that influence divorce. This type of problem occurs later. Above all, however, it can be seen even in these cases that the father does not exert an influence on the minor. In the case of divorce, the parents must have an even greater sense of responsibility for their children.

There is a high percentage, between 50 to 90 percent -- analyzing different groups, hence the figure between 50 to 90 percent -- of parents who have absolutely no disciplinary control over their children or who do not feel responsible for their children's antisocial behavior. They do not know what the children are doing outside the home, who their friends are, and are basically disinterested in their fulfillment of school and social duties. It even comes out in some research that most minors are in the habit of staying out until the early morning hours, a situation over which their parents have no control.

Relationships in the home environment are very negative, influenced by squabbling, alcoholic parents, and so forth. This can be seen in many cases. Educational methods based on threats and corporal punishment are evident in 60 to 100 percent of the cases studied. In general, the basic elements of the nuclear family of these minors -- parents and siblings -- are negative role models, including between 50 to 90 percent of the parents. In one group, 100 percent of the 872 minors evaluated by the diagnostic and orientation centers have relatives with records of criminal and antisocial behavior. The crime phenomenon becomes a sort of heritage. In some studies, it surfaced that parents and relatives fail to provide emotional and material support for the minors. That observation was made clear in the research conducted on the juvenile inmates of the East Havana Rehabilitation Center and on those evaluated in the diagnostic and orientation centers; 60 and 100 percent respectively of those evaluated stated that they have no affective relationships with their parents and that there is no trust or communication.

In most cases, the parents have a low academic level, usually not above primary school. This can be observed in between 80 to 100 percent of the groups under study. Some of the studies stressed the large composition of the nuclear family. It is significant that in the homes of 1,121 minors studied, the nuclear family ranges from between 8 to 12 persons, something which is related to the overcrowded conditions [2-second break in transmission] because their houses are in poor physical condition. In general, there is little revolutionary integration in these cases. In rare instances there are parents who are politically militant. It is worth noting that some research, in general rather than specific terms, indicate that there is a high percentage of parents whose occupation is unknown or who are not part of the working community.

The research points out that there are outstanding differences between the families of teenage lawbreakers and those who manifest correct social behavior. As was shown, the families' characteristics directly influence the minor's moral upbringing. As for the lawbreakers, their relatives do not have the right academic formation, as reflected in the absence of positive role models and the lack of compliance with established norms, as well as educational methods based on corporal punishment. Lack of affectivity is markedly absent in their relationships, leading to the disruption of the necessary communication with adults and other members of the family. Thus, minors are not prone to develop positive personality traits, since they lack the appropriate guidance to learn socially accepted norms and values.

I think that these studies are of great interest. I feel these must continue and be enhanced if we want to know the concrete and precise factors contributing to this kind of problem. We clearly see the family's role, the family's academic level, the family's political and moral behavior, and we can see the effect of material factors such as overcrowding. I thought of using those figures, considering the great importance of the FMC's social work, of the 18,000 social workers.

Each time, the revolution is [word indistinct] [applause] the fight against school absenteeism, the need to improve the schools' work, to make greater efforts in schools, especially when one is aware of these kinds of problems, the importance of the cooperation of all mass organizations in this struggle. We may have perfect schools and perfect teachers, but if the child does not go to school and does not do his homework, there is no control over him and he begins to stay out late. We have the accurate scientific data to say that this is the influence of certain factors in the child's and youth's upbringing.

Fortunately, this is not the case for the large majority of nuclear families or children. However, as long as there are 2,000, 1,000, 500 or just 1, we must combat those problems and the causes that give rise to them as an essential duty of our revolution. That is, the revolution's work becomes more complex all the time, more sophisticated. We must seek some degree of perfection, which, of course, cannot rise out of ignorance.

One is amazed when one remembers the early times, when we had neither schools or teachers or even sociologists to conduct these studies. Viewing it as a whole, enormous progress has been made, but we still have these traces, which explain the problems. It is not merely a matter of telling anecdotes; one must fight against the causes that give rise to these problems, which in fact emphasizes the work conducted through the years by the FMC, or which should be carried out by the youths, the CDR's, and the mass organizations. It would even be worth conducting a comparative study between urban and rural areas. It is difficult to imagine anyone wandering about late at night in the rural areas. In the rural areas they have cooperatives. Those are the differences between the large capital city and cities like Camaguey, Holguin, Bayamo, Tunas, and Santiago. You see how we are shown that the larger the city the greater the problem.

There is a task in which the Federation has played a very important and decisive role in the last 5 years. It is a task related to the defense of the homeland and the revolution. [applause] These 5 years have been the years of the country's greatest and, we might add, most fruitful efforts in the area of defense, because of the imperialist threats against our homeland. These threats have forced us to multiply our forces and we have done so several times, taking into consideration not only the quantity but also the quality of our effort and the revolution, when defense became a task for our entire people. Today we are incomparably stronger and will continue to be so, because we will continue perfecting our people's ideas and their training for the defense of our country.

When the Territorial Militia Units [MTT] were created, the male human resources were depleted, but we had an enormous potential of healthy women in full bloom, who were not physically incorporated into the country's defense. The incorporation of women into the defense tasks was one of the factors that most contributed to the development of our views and the multiplication of our forces. At present, 48 percent of the MTT forces are comprised of women. [applause]

Moreover, 20,000 women have been trained as command cadres and, according to news received from various regions of the country, and from the comments made by the companeros in the Defense Ministry, they exhibit notable qualities and capabilities for carrying out the assigned tasks. [applause]

This is what it means to incorporate women into all areas of the revolution, not only in the field of economics, production, and the services; not only in the area of education or the development of our people's awareness; but in something as fundamental and decisive as the defense of our country. It seems to me that this is decisive proof. And if there is reason for having any expectation for this congress, it is because this is not only a women's congress, but a congress representing half of our MTT. [prolonged applause] A congress of the defenders of the homeland. [applause] A congress of the new combatants and soldiers of the revolution. [prolonged applause, chants] This has constituted one of the most gigantic advances made in recent years, and for this reason our homeland today is stronger, safer, more invincible.

Women have also fulfilled important internationalist missions with extraordinary dignity. I think that in fulfilling these missions, Cuban women have filled unforgettable, honorable, and glorious pages of history [applause] in many parts of the world. For instance, we cannot forget the effort they carried out in Nicaragua: the Cuban women who comprised almost half of the teachers' contingents that for years taught Nicaraguan children in the most distant rural areas of that country, until [3-second break in transmission] to fulfill that task. Thousands and thousands of children would have gone uneducated in that fraternal country without the noble effort of our teachers. Our own collaborators in all areas in Nicaragua used to say that teachers were the most admired, because of the hard, difficult, and even risky conditions under which they carried out their mission.

There was much talk [2-second break in transmission] about Cuban collaborators in Nicaragua. Naturally, there has been a practice of multiplying figures. We never give any figures. We do not have to account to imperialism for how many collaborators we have in any given country. [applause] Nor do we ask them how many they have; how many soldiers, officers, military men, and CIA agents, or even volunteers in the Peace Corps, as they call it. However, we have observed the practice, the method of fabricating, of distorting their political interests in order to justify who knows what crimes.

More than once while talking to journalists and even U.S. visitors we have mentioned our teachers and their merits. It is incredible that our teachers should frighten some people. However, this fear is not totally groundless. Is it fear of the number of teachers and civilian collaborators or even the number of military collaborators? No, it is not their number. It cannot be their number. It is the force they display, the force of our ideas, which are capable of creating those teachers and those collaborators.

This is much more powerful than all the tanks, destroyers, aircraft carriers, bombers, strategic rockets, and deadly weapons that the enemies of human progress could have. It is much more powerful because the men and women who represent these ideas do not fear [applause] military technique or might at all.

Who is braver? Those who manufacture those arms and then assume the privilege of threatening revolutionaries, people, or patriots? Or those who feel absolutely no fear, but feel contempt for that might, for those weapons, and for those threats? [applause]

I believe it is that spirit that the reactionaries and the imperialists fear. This spirit is simply invincible. [applause] And this is not the spirit of a handful of men, of a group of men. It is the spirit of a nation.

We have wondered: Why haven't others sent teachers to live under the conditions existing in the most remote places, to live with the local families, eating what those families eat, sleeping where those families sleep? Those families often live in shacks, along with the domestic animals and the teacher.

On some occasions, the Education Ministry, concerned with the health of those teachers, decided to send them food, powdered milk and the like. But this did not solve any problems and could not resolve the situation because none of our teachers would drink a glass of milk in the morning in a place where there were children who had no milk. [applause] The food we sent them did not last long because they immediately shared it. And I asked that question because this is indisputable proof of the strength of our ideas and of the moral, not just material, victories of our revolution.

I have mentioned some countries which imperialism presents as models, and some of these countries even have many resources that are being lavishly wasted. And I have asked: Could this model country send 2,000 teachers to Nicaragua to work under the existing conditions? No. Could it send 1,000? No. Could it send 500 under the existing conditions? No. Could it send 100? So, if they don't have teachers to be sent a few kilometers from their own capital, how are they going to send teachers to work under the conditions existing in Nicaragua?

These are some questions. Look at all the model countries in this hemisphere, at all of them. They are perfect. Incredibly democratic models. They are incredibly respectful of human rights, so they say. We wonder how long they will be able to claim this, because these are the prize students of the teachers who taught them the techniques of murder, torture, disappearances, and all forms of repression.

How long will these so-called formally democratic governments last, once these good students start resolving problems, imposing order, and protecting the sacred status quo to prevent terrible communism from propagating, advancing? Dangerous and terrible communism. People must be made to disappear so that they don't turn communist. Everybody must be executed, exterminated. And they must be told that they must bear with hunger, misery, ignorance, unemployment, in other words, with every single vice and defect that this society has experienced and will not easily forget, and that some want to safeguard with bullets and blood. The idea is to prevent the spread of that horrible thing, socialism, communism, and Marxism-Leninism.

I have asked: Could all the model countries together send 2,000 teachers to Nicaragua to work under the existing conditions? No. How terrible. What are human values? What kind of human values or human rights exist in places where man is educated in conditions of such egotism and individualism that it is difficult to expect any act of solidarity, including the supreme act of solidarity, which is to offer one's life for another people, for another country, not only for his own people?

I am not saying that our sister Latin American nations do not have potential. There is a great moral potential and potential for solidarity. They have as much potential as we do and, perhaps more. But this potential has not been developed because the model countries do not permit the development of morals and human values. I do not doubt this.

I am not speaking of the human potential in our neighboring countries. I speak of the potential of the imposed system. I ask about the system. Can they appeal to the teachers to carry out this task under such difficult conditions? Can they call on 2,000 teachers? No. On 1,000 teachers? No. Nicaragua was criticized, Cuba was criticized for sending teachers to Nicaragua, teachers who did not go there to teach Marxism-Leninism. We met with the teachers and told them to be absolutely respectful, to strictly limit themselves to teaching. We told them not to get involved in any way in people's religious beliefs, to have absolute respect. And they did this. They thus earned the affection and respect of all Nicaraguans.

Then I can say that we did not just have 2,000 teachers in Nicaragua. When we requested volunteers for this mission, 30,000 persons offered their services. When 2 or 3 teachers were killed [applause], 100,000 persons offered their services. [applause] There you can determine whether or not the values represented by our revolution and our ideas are truly dreadful. And when our party speaks of these values and these (?forces), it is truly admirable to be able to affirm that half of those involved are women. [applause] In many cases they are mothers, [applause] willing to leave their children and families for 1 or 2 years. This is the revolution's work. I cited an example, and I could cite many more. However, I wanted to refer to this example, stating the scope of our solidarity with a neighboring country within our hemisphere. The imperialists are right in fearing our teachers, our collaborators, our men, and our women because of their banners and the invincible ideas that these banners symbolize. [applause]

Here among ourselves, on the occasion of this congress, there are some 150 delegations from other countries, [applause] which I will not call foreign delegations, but sister delegations. [applause] These delegations express the struggles of all the peoples and the female sector of these peoples against the injustice we have fought during these years. They express the goals we are struggling for and will continue to struggle for. They express, above all, the world's concern for peace and the peoples' concern over the madness of the arms race and the aggressive policies that not only threaten peace, but also threaten the survival of humanity. I am sure that just as your presence encourages us, our companeras' work and the successes they achieve will also encourage them in their struggles. [applause, chants]

The guest delegations include those who represent the women of brother peoples of Latin America. During the past few months, [applause] we have contacted representatives of Latin American women on the occasion of the event that was to be held in our country. Now we have the privilege of having them among us. We have contacted physicians, filmmakers, writers, and many Latin American groups. We can attest to the fact that something new is growing in the spirit of Latin American peoples. There is something going on deep inside the women, men, and workers in all walks of life: the awareness of the crisis in our hemisphere. This awareness is indicated by the more than 1,500 pediatricians who attended this congress from Latin America. More than anyone else, they know how many children die in every one of those countries and why they die. The children who die are not counted by the hundreds or thousands. They are counted by hundreds of thousands. Nearly 1 million children less than 1 year old die every year.

As the UNICEF director said here, if the infant mortality rate in these countries were similar to that of Cuba, then 750,000 of these children would be saved every year. [applause] These physicians know how many children between 1 and 4 years old and between 4 and 16 years old die. They also know the life expectancy of these children and why they die, as well as how many hospitals there are and how many have yet to be built. They know how many of these children receive medical care and how many don't, and why.

You don't have to be Marxist-Leninist or socialist. You just have to have eyes to see. There are people of various ideologies at this congress who are becoming increasingly aware of the tragedy. These include writers who reflect this awareness, filmakers, women, and workers. There are also many political delegations from a wide variety of parties. They express the degree of terrible crisis, which is worse than any previous one. We can discuss the crisis of the 1930's. It is still being discussed. There is now a similar crisis, which is even worse. Products exported by Latin American countries sell for less than they did in the 1930's. In addition, the population of these countries is much larger, about two and one half times larger. There are now many more economic and social problems that (?require) much more political skill. Back then, we did not have that $360-billion debt, this enormous debt, in addition to our other many problems. The payment of this debt is being demanded. These countries are being pressured to pay off nearly $40 billion per year in interest and they don't have any possibility of paying this amount, because the Latin American peoples have reached their limit of endurance, no matter how strongly they are pressured. They cannot withstand any more pressure. Huge interest rates, 12, 13, 14 percent are being demanded of these peoples. These rates depend on the disposition and the sovereign will of the northern colossus, whose currency is overvalued, whose interest on its loans increases according to its whim.

First they loan dollars. Then, they increase the value of the dollar. Then, you cannot pay the dollar borrowed at its previous value. Now you have to pay much more. For the amount that you borrowed, you have to pay 8, 10, 12 or 14 percent interest. In addition, the amount that you borrowed circulated, and returned to the North. It was spent in the North, generated employment in the North. And not only the dollar, but also your products and raw materials were sold at lower and lower prices. This is the inexorable law of the exchange imbalance. What Latin American peoples buy is more and more expensive and what they sell is worth less and less. Those who manufacture a screw, a nut, or a piece of equipment there make $1,000 or $1,200 in the [words indistinct]. Those who produce sugar, cacao, coffee, peanuts, or iron and copper ore there earn $60, $80, $100. It takes more and more coffee, cacao, sugar, meat, seeds, or mineral ore to buy industrial equipment or a bulldozer. And this has been happening for 50 years. How long will this situation continue? In addition, we have the protectionist laws of the empire and the nations that are the empire's allies.

Payments must be made, but you cannot sell here, regardless of how low your prices are. And I will buy your coffee and cacao, but if you manufacture anything I will not let it go through. If it is 1 square meter of cloth, I will not let you get it in. Ah, but you have to pay me. And you have to pay me my overvalued dollar and you have to pay the multiplied interest.

This is the reality; this is the situation imposed by the (?demented) system that is now in crisis. As we were saying, (?we are faced with) an unbearable situation. We have said publicly how we view the situation. If imperialism insists on demanding the payment of that debt and the payment of that interest, then Latin American societies will explode. One need not be an expert or a specialist. A person would have to be blind not to see this.

After more than 20 years, we now recall the Alliance for Progress. There was talk of reform, to prevent revolutions, and of economic aid -- $20 billion over a period of 10 or 15 years. This came in the wake of the Cuban revolution. No one had thought about this before. But when the revolution emerged here and a few began to think about this: Let us see what can be done, let us relax a bit, there will not be any more revolutions, some reforms must be introduced, some aid must be given. After more than 20 years, (?what) do we have? Eighteen times 20 billion is owed, and the demand is being made that the industrialized countries, mostly the United States, should receive twice that sum every year. How can this be endured?

We have been explaining this problem, and we have been telling this to every person we have talked to from the industrialized countries. For this reason, the time at which this congress is taking place, and the Latin American representatives are visiting us, is a special moment, a different moment, in which the crisis is advancing in the hemisphere. Problems which might not be solved in 50 or 100 years, are resolved when there is a crisis, in one way or another. And in this case, they should either forget this debt and give up this extortion -- what they have taken through the mechanism of unequal trade alone is much more than the debt, and the exploitation of the natural resources and of the Latin American peoples' efforts is much more than the debt -- or they will have revolutions. Either they forget that debt, and not only that, but also injustice, exploitation, unequal trade, protectionism, and the brutal methods of exploitation of our peoples are finally overcome -- because I think that merely resolving the debt issue is not enough -- or they will have revolutions. When crises come, problems are finally resolved in one way or another.

They cannot say we are preaching subversion. We are saying what will happen. These 26 years have not passed in vain. We have seen many things, but what we are seeing now, we have never seen before. And these phemomena are reflected in the delegations that visit Cuba. There is not only an enormous and monstrous crisis, there is also increasing awareness of the situation, and this awareness is reflected in all those who visit Cuba. Therefore the future years, the next 5 years of work by the Federation, will be interesting years. The next years will be interesting and decisive ones for the nations that these women represent.

Our country has defined its course very clearly. We have reached maturity: 26 years and 2 months. [applause] We have accumulated abundant experience. The cadres, the organizations, and the parties have helped the revolution direct the process much more solidly and securely. Work has been carried out tirelessly in recent months to plan and program implementation of these idea. At these difficult moments, and amid this crisis, we are moving ahead at full speed, [applause] supported by our solid, fraternal, and indestructible relations with the socialist countries. [applause]

These countries do not steal from us, they do not exploit us, they do not lower the prices of our exports and sell their products to us at higher prices. [applause] These countries do not harm us financially. They do not charge us increasingly higher interest rates. They charge us lower ones. Furthermore, when our debts accumulate -- as happens with developing countires due to the large investments with which we build our electronuclear projects, refineries, [word indistinct] and so on, for which we receive credit, thus building up debts -- instead of harming us, they give us facilities and they postpone payment for 5, 10, 15 years, without interest. [applause]

We urge the developed capitalist countries, especially the United States, to follow the same policies [laughter] with their Latin American model countries. If they do not, they will lose their model countries. [applause] Thanks to the revolution, to these brotherly and solidarity relations, thanks to our ideas and our policies, to our revolution's seriousness and our firmness, and thanks to experience -- which we did not have when we began and which no one could give us -- our path is clear and certain. All of this has already been said and discussed and you have supported it with programs, savings, and our banners. We have to carry those banners. We want to build a future, an increasingly good future that will allow us to overcome even the objective conditions that block our goal of an even more just society.

Shadows can emerge, but we are not afraid of these shadows. Dangers exist but they do not fighten us. We march onward, well guided toward our goals. We have arrived at all [word indistinct]. If madness, folly, stupidity, and the warmongers burn this planet, we will fall, but we will not hesitate. We will fall but we will never take one step backward. [applause] We will fall, but we will fall with our banners and our ideas. [applause] Fatherland or death, we will win! [applause]

CASTRO SENDS CONDOLENCES ON CHERNENKO'S DEATH

PA121311 Havana International Service in Spanish 1224 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Cuban President Fidel Castro has sent a message of condolence to Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on the death Sunday of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko. The message states that due to Chernenko's death the Soviet Union has lost a great personality whose long, firm career in the service of socialism won him international respect and esteem.

The message by the top Cuban leader stresses Chernenko's permanent dedication to socialism, his steadfastness and devotion to communist ideals, which he embraced in his youth, as well as his efforts to achieve the independence of peoples and peace for the whole world. The message notes that Chernenko's prudence and flexibility were decisive at this time when threats of war are endangering world peace, and stresses the firmness with which Chernenko rejected the dangerous premises with which U.S. imperialism is trying to justify its military supremacy goals.

In the message Fidel Castro also notes that Chernenko was a constant friend of Cuba who exemplarily expressed the CPSU's solidarity with the Cuban Government and people.

Finally, the message from the president of the Cuban Councils of State and Minister expresses Castro's conviction regarding the Soviet Union's loyalty to the principles of proletarian internationalism and his certainty of the friendship and irreversible solidarity that links us.

Official Mourning Decreed

FL120100 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Cuba's Council of State has issued a decree declaring official mourning starting today, Monday, until Wednesday, 13 March, for the death of Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee of the Soviet Union and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The decree, signed by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, states that Chernenko dedicated his life to the socialist and communist cause, maintaining a firm and nonconcessionary position in the search for peace before the aggressive, warlike, and hostile policies of imperialism.

In another part of the Council of State decree, it is stated that Chernenko contributed to the development and strengthening of the traditional ties of friendship and cooperation between Cuba and the Soviet Union on the basis of proletariat internationalism. It adds that the Cuban people feel as their own the pain and sorrow of the Soviet people on their irreplaceable loss.

It was also reported that at the Soviet Embassy in Havana, the condolence book for Chernenko's death has been opened, and will remain open at the embassy until Wednesday.

OFFICIALS MEET WITH SOVIET MINISTER, ANGOLANS

FL081424 Hilversum International Service in English 1030 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko has held talks in Moscow with government representatives from Cuba and Angola. No details have been released on the contents of these discussions. The last meeting involving representatives of these [words indistinct] in January 1984. At that time, the Soviet Union and Cuba announced an increase in aid for Angola.

Cuba now has some 30,000 troops in Angola to assist the government against the South African-backed resistance forces. Last November, Angola proposed the withdrawal of 25,000 of the Cuban troops in exchange for South Africa's withdrawal from Namibia. The government in Pretoria, however, rejected this offer and demanded the departure of all Cuban forces from Angola.

AMBASSADOR CONDEMNS HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

FL082048 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1907 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Cuban Ambassador Carlos Lechuga has condemned the repeated violations of basic human rights in El Salvador and Guatemala at the UN Commission on Human Rights in Geneva, Switzerland. He underscored that for many years now in those two countries assassinations, torture, and disappearances have become daily events. To the name of the international community, the Cuban ambassador said, the Salvadoran and Guatemalan regimes continue misgoverning with the help and support of foreign interests.

In another part of his speech, Lechuga condemned the U.S. aggressive policy against Nicaragua because it has taken its toll on thousands of innocent victims destroyed the spirit of human rights.

SPANISH LABOR LEADER TOURS HAVANA, ENDS VISIT

Tours Havana With Veiga

FL080314 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Nicolas Redondo, secretary general of the General Union of Spanish Workers, who is visiting Cuba at the invitation of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions [CTC], toured places of historic, economic, and tourist interest in Havana. Roberto Veiga, alternate Politburo member and CTC secretary general, accompanied Redondo on his tour.

Meets With Castro

PA101618 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1638 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Text] Havana, 9 Mar (EFE) -- Cuban President Fidel Castro has informed Nicolae Redondo, secretary general of General Union of Spanish Workers, UGT, about his concern over the NATO presence in Spain. Castro also told Redondo about his deep respect for the Spanish socialist government.

Redondo met with Castro for 90 minutes last night. It was an informal meeting that dealt mostly with two issues: Spain's ties with NATO and Latin America's foreign debt.

UGT sources have told EFE that Fidel had expressed a certain level of frustration over the fact that Spain is not being more bold in its role as a bridge to Latin America and that it is not taking advantage of this historic opportunity. Castro also referred to the unpayable foreign debt of Latin America, a debt that, in his opinion, could unleash social storms of unforeseeable consequences.

Nicolae Redondo is the first UGT secretary general to visit this island officially. He was invited by the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions.

The subject of Spain's ties with NATO was discussed by the Spanish labor leader during a press conference in which he reiterated the UGT's rejection of the two military blocs. Redondo said that the UGT is definitely in favor of Spain's withdrawal from NATO and affirmed that the left has a pacifist nature.

In the opinion of Manuel Simon [UGT secretary for international relations] the trip to Cuba has served to strengthen the bilateral relations between the UGT and the Cuban labor organization and to analyze future forms of cooperation at the federation and sectorial levels. Simon told EFE that the UGT wants to diversity its relations both geographically and ideologically "because at this moment of crisis, arms buildups, and threats of nuclear war, it is important not to break off the dialogues among labor organization." He also said that there are cultural and historic ties with Cuba that place bilateral relations above the normal level.

Delegation Ends Visit

FL111803 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1230 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] After completing an extensive schedule of activities during its stay in Cuba, invited by the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions, the delegation of the General Union of Spanish Workers returned to its country headed by its Secretary General Nicolas Redondo and also composed of Manuel Simon, the trade union's secretary for international relations.

BARBADOS

PRIME MINISTER ADAMS DIES OF HEART ATTACK

Deputy Named Successor

FL112340 Bridgetown CANA in English 2314 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Bridgetown, Barbados, March 11, CANA -- Barbados Prime Minister Tom Adams died suddenly here today at the age of 53 and his deputy Bernard St John was appointed to succeed him. A brief bulletin from the government information said Adams died early this afternoon at his official residence, Ilaro Court, just outside Bridgetown. The cause of death was not disclosed but official sources said he died of a heart attack. The Acting Governor General Sir Arnott Cato appointed Queens Counsel St John, who Adams had succeeded as leader of the ruling Barbados Labour Party (BLP) in 1971, as new prime minister.

The official announcement was made on local radio stations just before five o'clock and they immediately cut into regular programmes with solemn music. Ordinary Barbadians interviewed said they were stunned at the news. Adams became head of government in 1976, after the BLP had endured 15 years in opposition. In early reaction, the opposition Democratic Labor Party said it was shocked and distressed at his death. The High Command of Canada Noble Power said his country had lost a great friend who had given dynamic, thoughtful, and effective leadership to Barbados.

New Prime Minister St John, 53, is a British-trained lawyer who has been in and out of the Barbados House of Assembly since 1966. Besides being Adams' deputy, he held the portfolios of trade, industry, and international transport. He has had 26 years in political life here.

Cabinet met tonight in emergency session and the GIS [Government Information Service] said St John would give details of Adams' death in a broadcast to the nation tonight at 9 pm local time (0100 GMT).

Ramphal Sends Condolences

FL112348 Bridgetown CANA in English 2246 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] London, March 11, CANA -- Following is the text of a statement from Commonwealth Secretary General Shridath Sonny Ramphal on the sudden death today of Barbados Prime Minister J.M.G. Tom Adams.

I send to the government and people of Barbados my deepest condolences on the tragic passing of Prime Minister Tom Adams. His colleauges and many friends throughout the Commonwealth will receive the news with profound regret and shock. For the Caribbean in particular, it is a time of deep and poignant sorrow in which I share in a very personal way. To his wife Genevieve and their children and to Lady Adams (his mother) go our most heartfelt sympathy.

Cabinet To Be Retained

FL120300 Bridgetown CANA in English 0233 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Excerpt] One of Harold Bernard St John's first official duties tonight was to go on radio and TV to personally tell the people of Barbados about the immediate future of the BLP Government with the demise of Adams and about plans for the funeral.

St John declared one week of mourning, set March 16 as the date for the burial, and said he was retaining the same cabinet as an interim measure and to ensure continuity. In the five minute appearance, he lavished praise on Adams. He was a wise and compassionate leader whose life was a shining example, St John said.

A planned summit this year between the prime minister of Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago, the next heads of government conference of the 13-nation Caribbean Community (Caricom) in July, and general elections constitutionally due for 1986 are among the main events ahead for the new Barbados leader.

St John is married to the former Stella Hope of St Vincent and has three children.

JAMAICA

OFFICIALS ACCUSE SOVIET MEDIA OF PROPGANDA WAR

FL081954 Bridgetown CANA in English 1926 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, March 8, CANA -- Jamaican officials have accused the Soviet media of launching a major propaganda war on an international youth conference the Edward Seaga government is hosting here next month to mark International Year of the Youth. At the same time, the Soviets were attempting to promote the 12th world festival of youth and students opening in Moscow on July 27, the GLEANER newspaper today quoted local officials as saying.

The Jamaican conference has been shrouded in controversy because of its omission of Communist nations and suggestions that it was geared at promoting conservative ideological positions. The youth arm of the socialist Opposition People's National Party (PNP) here is boycotting the conference. The Soviet media has criticised the conference and the Moscow youth daily KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA said Wednesday it was designed as an act of psychological war, bringing together anti-communist exiles from Europe and counter-revolutionaries from Nicaragua and Cuba.

Errol Anderson, the Jamaican Government minister who heads an organising committee for the conference, dismissing the charges, said he did not have the resources to mount a campaign against the Soviets. The doctor bird (Jamaica's national bird) could not compete with the Russian bear, the GLEANER quoted Anderson as saying.

The Jamaicans have billed the conference as a meeting of independent youth of the free world and representatives from about 300 youth organisations in 100 countries are expected. An international festival of arts is to run alongside the conference.